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FINANCIAL TIMES

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Thursday October 30 1975

**10p

CONTINENTAL SELLING PRICES: AUSTRIA S.4.72; BELGIUM F.29; DENMARK K.2.75; FRANCE F.7.28; GERMANY DM1.76; ITALY L.306; NETHERLANDS F.1.56; NORWAY K.2.75; PORTUGAL Esc.15.80; SPAIN Ptas.36; SWEDEN Kr.2.50; SWITZERLAND Fr.1.50.

MARKET SUMMARY

GENERAL

Tayfair
omb
ijures
venty

More than 20 people were injured when a bomb went off at 4 p.m. outside an Italian restaurant in the Mayfair area last night. Police off the area amid fears a second bomb had been planted.

ast rampage

At least last night one man was killed and at least 12 were injured as a mob of IRA gunmen went on a rampage in the city of Belfast. In a carefully planned operation the IRA took control of the city and set off a series of explosions.

ld in

don

ib raids

Police officers were among eight being questioned yesterday in raids on London by the security forces. The raids were part of an investigation into the activities of the IRA.

ier guns

in Beirut

Gun battles raged in Beirut yesterday, with the Lebanese National Front and the Syrian army fighting for control of the city. The fighting resulted in several deaths and injuries.

ish prince

Castiella

Prince Juan Carlos of Spain surprised his subjects by visiting the city of Castiella yesterday. He was accompanied by his wife, Princess Sophia, and they were seen walking through the streets of the city.

rama team

in Angola

A team of British soldiers was sent to Angola yesterday to assist the Portuguese army in its fight against the Frelimo rebels. The team was part of a larger British military presence in the region.

iale 'a test'

The importance of William Tyndale's work as a test case for the European Court of Justice was highlighted yesterday. The court is expected to rule on whether Tyndale's work is protected by copyright law.

ly ...

The abandonment of the European football championship in Bratislava after 17 days of rain was a fresh start for the tournament. The rain had caused significant damage to the pitch and the surrounding area.

ed Owen, the Midlands

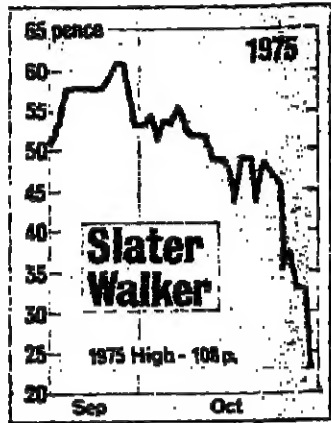
Obituary: Owen, the Midlands. Owen was a well-known figure in the Midlands region and his death is a significant loss to the community.

Obituary Page 10

BUSINESS

Slater
loses 10p;
equities
down 7.6

Slater Walker Securities fell 10p to a new low of 23p. Companies associated with Mr. Slater, the new chairman, also fell, and there was a reversal in the firm under-



toe of EQUITIES. The FT 30-share index closed 7.6 down at 325.5. GILTS were also affected and early gains were transformed to losses of 1 in 10p.

STERLING gained 20 points to \$2.0685; its depreciation was unchanged at 29.2 per cent. The dollar was also steady at 2.38 per cent.

GOLD gained 5s to \$142.

WALL STREET fell 12.83 to 223.63 after President Ford re-affirmed his opposition to the Federal aid in New York City's troubles. He said default on the city's debt would be a disaster.

Citibank may cut rate 1/4%.

PRESIDENT of First National City Bank told Reuters that Citibank will cut its prime rate by 1/4 per cent to 10.75 per cent tomorrow unless circumstances change. He said the rate could be cut another 1/4 per cent next week.

CAR IMPORTS to the U.K. increased 50 per cent to 5,823m in the first nine months of 1975, 50m more than the revenue from car exports. However, total motor industry exports were 41 per cent up over the same period at £1,924m, leaving an overall trade surplus of £1,124m.

GOVERNMENT is to bring in legislation for the licensing of banks in line with a draft EEC directive. The new law will give a legal definition of a bank in the U.K. and essentially formalise practice since the 1973 fringe banking crisis.

EEC COMMISSION gives the French Government seven days to lift its 12 per cent tariff on Italian wine or be charged in the European Court. Page 6

RAN on bond issues by foreigners on the West German market imposed last July ends this week. Page 24

BPB INDUSTRIES first-half pre-tax profit rose to £8.98m (£5.89m). Chairman expects full-year figures to be ahead of last year (£11.6m). Page 21 and Lex

KWIK SAVE pre-tax profit for the year to September rose to £2.85m (£2.71m). Directors say sales in the current year "are running at an increased level." Page 21 and Lex

PRICE CHANGES YESTERDAY

in pence unless otherwise indicated		
national	107	+ 4
backing	77	+ 5
ish	130	+ 7
is	140	+ 15
	45	+ 4
J.I.	151	+ 31
ring	6p.4m	+ 30
e Mackintosh	180	+ 4
3a and Lands	380	+ 40
ides	325	+ 25
ate Plat	100	+ 7
urchison	690	+ 10
at Prop	645	+ 15
1	173	+ 10
efs	222	+ 14
FALLS		
ontinental	56	- 3
ent	189	- 5

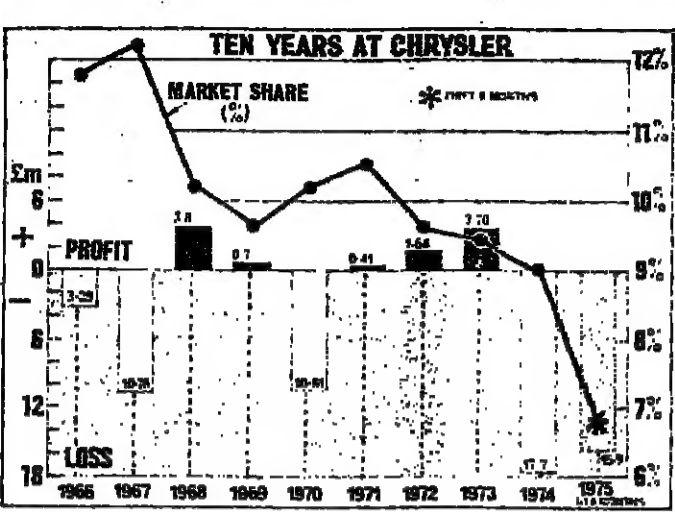
Chrysler considers selling out in U.K.

BY GUY DE JONQUIERES in New York, and TERRY DODSWORTH in London

Mr. John J. Riccardo, the Chrysler chairman, strongly indicated yesterday that the company is considering the disposal of its British subsidiary as one of a number of possible solutions to its problems in the U.K. Speaking at a Press conference in Detroit, he said that Chrysler has been reviewing all its unprofitable operations worldwide and that it was prepared, if necessary, to incur a short-term loss by writing off those which offered little promise of returning to profitability soon.

"We are studying alternate ways including any number of things, up to and including a disposal, if that's what it takes to get rid of the loss," While he refused to discuss any of the specific options which might be applied to Chrysler U.K., he left no doubt that it was near the top of the list of candidates for possible disposal, although no final decision had been taken. Describing the U.K. operation as "the biggest problem facing Chrysler," Mr. Riccardo said that both the British subsidiary and the national economy were in a grave condition.

Mr. Riccardo's statement appeared to take Chrysler U.K. officials, the British Government and the trade unions by complete surprise. Although the deepening crisis in Chrysler's position in Britain has suggested that the company might have to withdraw, Chrysler Corporation has repeatedly insisted—initially in response to a letter from Mr. Anthony



Wedgwood Benn, then Industry Secretary—that it had no intention of doing so. According to the Department of Industry, the apparent change of policy has not been indicated to the British Government. Last night the DoI said that although it had been in regular contact with Chrysler U.K., it had "no approach" from the company about the possibility of pulling out of Britain. Labour MPs with Chrysler constituency interests are to see Mr. Eric Varley, the Industry Secretary, this afternoon to discuss the situation, and "will seek an assurance that Chrysler will stay in this country." Few MPs

appear to support a solution to Chrysler's problems that would involve a merger with British Leyland—a company which is felt to have enough difficulties of its own. National and local union officials will be meeting Chrysler next week to discuss the three-day week the company has just introduced. But Mr. Frank Chater, divisional organiser of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers said last night: "If the company decided to close—and frankly I can't see any willing buyers on the horizon—it would be a blow to Coventry from which it might not recover." Talks on Government assistance have been going on between the company and the DoI for several months, on the basis of a "submission" made by Chrysler outlining the way in which a financial injection could be used.

The submission fell short of a direct application for aid, but in it Chrysler is believed to have indicated that it needs about £25m for a new model which is essential if it is to maintain a presence in Britain. The company believes that it would be eligible for part of this sum—about £5m—under regional allowances, since the new car would be assembled at Linwood in Scotland. The rest would come under the Industry Act provisions. Under this plan Chrysler could possibly get a new model of the production lines within 18 months, since much of the development work has been done, and it could use many existing components, including the Avenger engine (with perhaps a larger capacity since variation from Chrysler's French subsidiary, or Simca 1100 floorpan). The significance of this approach is that it would give Chrysler a conventionally-engineered car (unlike the Simca front-wheel drive cars, suitable for exports, particularly for Iran, where Chrysler has a contract to supply 120,000 Hornets this year).

News analysis, Page 23 Continued on Back Page Editorial comment, Page 18

Unity of U.K. not at risk from devolution plans—Short

BY JOHN BOURNE, LOBBY EDITOR

MR. EDWARD SHORT, Lord President of the Council, fought back publicly for the first time last night against the growing criticisms among politicians in all parties of the Government's so-called unpublished proposals to devolve certain powers to Scotland and Wales. Cautiously he did not commit himself on a timetable for the enactment of the proposals.

In an exclusive interview with the Financial Times, Mr. Short, the Minister responsible for Scotland, said: "It must be clear we are not devolving sovereignty. Westminster will remain supreme. What we are giving in law-making powers to Scotland could be taken back by a simple act of the U.K. Parliament."

He added that the two premises of the White Paper would be: "We should at all costs preserve economic and political unity for the U.K. but at the same time, we should devolve certain powers generously and upgrade."

The BHI, he said, which would follow the White Paper at a date to be determined, would be determined by the Scottish Parliament and in Scotland, Mr. Short added: "Any MP should understand the political realities given the pressures in Scotland, the alternative to our proposals is that Scotland would separate from the U.K. within a decade."

Admitting there was a slight risk that the White Paper proposals could lead to a "slippery slope" with the Scottish Nationalist Party demanding further devolution measures, he affirmed: "But I believe we have the right balance in the package, a balance which will avoid this slope. Moderate opinion in Scotland will regard the package as an acceptable devolution of powers, going as far as we can without separation of their country from the U.K."

"If it were not for our proposals, which will be published after the middle of next month, we should certainly be on the slide to the separation of Scotland from the U.K. The choice is between devolving certain substantial powers and allowing the nation to go on this slide at full speed."

He said that the proposals were not a "slippery slope" but a "controlled descent" and that the Government was not "giving away" powers but "rebalancing" them.

side to the separation of Scotland from the U.K. The choice is between devolving certain substantial powers and allowing the nation to go on this slide at full speed. "If our proposals are accepted by Parliament, the SNP will then only be able to advocate separatism, and would then lose what popular support they have in Scotland."

Mr. Short conceded that the Government could not be absolutely certain it would be able to halt demands for total separation. However, he added that the White Paper was the best judgment of the possibilities which Ministers could make. "Despite certain Press reports immediately after last Friday's meeting of Cabinet Ministers at Chequers, the meeting was unanimous that the draft White Paper was broadly right and that its proposals would prevent a slide to separatism by Scotland."

There are of course varying views in the Government, but the majority of Ministers at Chequers were in favour of the White Paper. The White Paper is expected by well-informed MPs to go to the full Cabinet for approval on November 12.

In the interview, Mr. Short said he did not believe there was any strong demand for English regional assemblies, but he revealed that there would be a Government statement at about the time of the White Paper, saying that consultations with outside bodies about devolution in England would start next year—"without any commitment by the Government, which is keeping an open mind."

Mr. R. D. Weimer, president of Delmarva, said the termination of the Summit contract in no way altered the utility's belief in the desirability of the HTGR concept. A spokesman for General Atomic in San Diego last night said Mr. William Finlay, president of General Atomic, had reassured staff that the company would continue going out of business. Although research, development and design of the HTGR has been the company's major activity, it still has earnings of "millions of dollars" from other products.

What has not yet been determined is the fate of several hundred of the 2,700 employees in San Diego who are directly concerned with the going out of business of the HTGR. The company announced earlier this month that it would not be pursuing further HTGR contracts.

Discussions are continuing with the ERDA about the possibility of funding a large demonstration HTGR project, for which the U.S. Energy Research and Development Administration the possibility of Government support for the project.

Some form of "launching aid" was envisaged whereby the U.S. Government would treat the scheme as a demonstration project and meet some of the cost. Unfortunately, no formula could be found that would ensure

African States may bypass ANC leaders

BY BRIDGET BLOOM, AFRICA CORRESPONDENT

THREE KEY African presidents, the Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole and Bishop Abel Muzorewa, can manage, either singly or together, to achieve a negotiated settlement with the White Government in Rhodesia within the next few months, the three Rhodesian Nationalists could find themselves without official support in Zambia, Tanzania and Mozambique.

Unless Mr. Joshua Nkomo, the Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole and Bishop Abel Muzorewa, can manage, either singly or together, to achieve a negotiated settlement with the White Government in Rhodesia within the next few months, the three Rhodesian Nationalists could find themselves without official support in Zambia, Tanzania and Mozambique.

According to sources in Lusaka, Dar es Salaam and Lourenço Marques, Presidents Kaunda, Nyerere and Machel are rapidly losing patience with Rhodesia's present African leaders.

The Presidents feel that the bitter and acrimonious divisions of the existing ANC leadership have been a major cause of the failure of the detente exercise. While the Presidents recognise that the intransigence of Mr. Ian Smith, the Rhodesian Prime Minister, is also greatly to blame, they are all appalled at the inability of the present Nationalist leadership to seize the opportunity provided by the detente exercise to achieve a peaceful settlement in Rhodesia.

One last shot at negotiation—possibly between Mr. Smith and Mr. Joshua Nkomo—is not detente can pull an unexpected rabbit out of the now crumpled hat, the confrontation returns to guerrilla war and none of them believes the present of the Black-White line will ANC leaders able to command move very much nearer.

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On the other hand, the South African reaction also remains to be seen—Mr. Vorster, for his part, has scant patience with Mr. Smith and observers have noted with interest that rumours last week-end of Mr. Smith's impending resignation, firmly denied by him, appeared to emanate from South Africa.

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France No other country rewards a little knowledge so well

Know the country and you'll find the bargains that make over-expensive France a myth. Know France and you'll eat in restaurants that are off the beaten track. Visit villages most holiday-makers have never heard of. Stay in hotels that give great value for money. We know France. That's why we're introducing new, inclusive holidays that bring out the very best of France. We understand the pleasure of France. So we've carefully selected everything that goes into an Air France Welcome France Holiday. Moreover, Air France guarantees Welcome France. Ask your Travel Agent for a free copy of our Welcome France Holidays brochure or post the coupon to: Air France, Department PU, 69 Boston Manor Road, Brentford, Middlesex.



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LEWIS

The crucial role of prices

BY C. GORDON TETHER

ONE THING that emerges more clearly than ever from the latest opinion poll soundings of public attitudes to the handling of the country's economic affairs is that the Achilles Heel of the Government's disinflationary strategy is to be found in the behaviour of prices. And Whitehall and the business press have clearly got to be ready to attack the highest priority to improving the programme's image on this front if the success of the whole operation is not to be put in jeopardy—whatever this may cost in terms of the disadvantages it will incur in other directions.

The latest Gallup Poll conducted for the Daily Telegraph shows that the Government's policy of restricting wage claims continues to enjoy overwhelming support notwithstanding the fact that it is now being begun to bite deeply into the living standards of a substantial slice of the population. No less than 60 per cent of those questioned still approve of it and it commands just as much support among trade unionists as it does in the community as a whole.

But it is clearly a very different matter where the prices aspect of the disinflation strategy is concerned. Only one in four took the view that the Government was doing enough to hold prices down. No less than 66 per cent thought that it was falling short of its obligations in this field.

The bargain

Public collaboration in implementing the new attack on inflation was, of course, secured on the basis of an undertaking to see that restraint on the incomes front would in due course be rewarded with a comparable turn for the better in the behaviour of the other element in the inflationary spiral—prices. So there should be no difficulty in seeing that the public's present enthusiasm for the official stand against wage excesses is not likely to survive any prolonged continuance of its feeling that the other part of the bargain it struck is not being honoured.

If the recent action by the junior doctors shows, there is no lack of readiness to throw down a challenge to the Government's pay policy if something approximating to an adequate reward for doing so can be put forward. What happens if the public comes to feel, as the vital months immediately ahead roll by, that its willingness to go along with wages restraint is being exploited to bring about a substantial

RACING

BY DOMINIC WIGAN

Bagshot can be Lewis winner

GEOFF LEWIS, whose retainer of five years standing, to Noel Nurless has not been renewed for 1976, has ridden some of his best races over the Rowley Mile at Newmarket, and I shall be disappointed if he cannot land the Isleham Maiden Plate (3.15), on Bagshot over this course and distance to-day.

Bagshot, a powerfully made colt by Connaught, out of the Grey Sovereign mare Gribbi, ran his best race to date over this mile at the last meeting, when he won by three-quarters of a length by Prince Pepe after cutting out much of the running.

A reproduction of that form will probably enable him to deal with some poor opponents, best of whom may be Prince Pepe's once-raced stable mate Cheltenham.

In the Mildenhall Claiming Stakes (1.15), Tender Music can help to patch up the recent split between Barry Hills and his regular jockey Willie Carson by outpacing Mark Easterby's northern challenger Twin Power. Hills and Carson took the corresponding event last year through Hillarity.

Here are the remaining five horses in my list of ten likely to repay support during the National Hunt season:

NEWMARKET
1.15—Tender Music***
1.45—Hendraburnick
2.15—Taramos*
2.45—King Ocar
3.15—Bagshot**
3.45—Court Lane

NEWCASTLE
1.30—Kings Comet
2.00—Sparkle Again
2.30—Marcus Lady
3.00—Red Rum
3.30—Temple Rise
4.00—Red Marshall

certain to have derived considerable benefit from two recent outings on the flat and early successes are likely to come to her.

Sycamore (7, J. Gifford). This grey son of Roan Rocket could manage only one placed effort from seven outings last season.

He was highly tried, however, and with a drop in handicap weights it will come as a surprise if the Findon gelding cannot regain winning form.

True Song (6, D. Underwood). Although he is not quite up to dealing with the best on level terms, this extremely tough Kelso horse is always to be respected in handicap company—and he is just the sort for an event such as the Schweppes Gold Trophy—a race in which he finished a close seventh of 28 in February.

Uncle Bing (7, G. Doidge). One of the leading novice chasers last season, Uncle Bing need only polish up his sometimes erratic jumping in the coming months to land some of the principal 2½ mile events.

Wave Hill (6, F. Winter). But for a bad mistake at the penultimate flight in an event for unraced hurdlers at Ascot eight months ago this strong gelding would almost certainly have dealt with Regal Flight to whom he was a length runner up. A progressive start, who is likely to go on and become a high class chaser, Wave Hill may prove capable of achieving a winning sequence over the minor obstacles in the next few weeks.

SALEROOM

BY ANTONY THORNCROFT

Armada letter makes £3,200

AT SOTHEBY'S yesterday, a sale of autograph letters, literary manuscripts and historical documents totalling 578,823. The highest price was the £14,000 paid by an anonymous collector for a series of letters, covering 1,300 pages, written between 1794-1821 by Mrs. Thrale, famous as a friend of Dr. Johnson, to the Williams family at Bosworth.

The price may seem excessive, but it was actually below estimate. The letters were highly valued because they are the earliest known series by Mrs. Thrale (who, in fact, had become Mrs. Piozzi by the time she wrote them), and they have remained largely unpublished. They give a vivid picture of the literary and political events, and the numerous early years of the 18th century.

Prices were generally good, and few better than the £8,500 paid by Hoffman and Freeman, the Spence's dealers, for two manuscript books containing poems by Dudley, Lord North. It is very rare to find a special sale to commemorate the 700th anniversary of the City. It

totalled £193,771, with a world record of £12,400 for a ship model, in this case the Mercator built in 1747 for the East India Company. A netuke sale in London totalling £58,576, with Eskandar paying £2,600, a high price for a netuke, for a study of a wolf with a leg of deer signed by Olaf.

Christie's had a routine silver sale but managed some good prices. The best was the £2,100 from Levens for a Victorian centrepiece by Edington, which had been estimated at £800-£1,000. A group of a dozen George III soup plates by Paul Sturt was right on target at £1,750 to Bloomstein. The sale totalled £55,111.

There was an interesting sale at Bonhams of bygonnes and armour, with an early English "Brown Bess" musket of 1718 exceeding its target at £1,700. An electro-magnetic motor of 1832, patented by Allan, was bought for £950 (estimate £500-£500), the among the cheaper lots the passion for Victoriana extended to lavatory seats, with two selling for £30.

ANGLIA
1.25 p.m. Anglia News, 2.00 Women Only, 4.25 The Evening News, 4.55 Radio 4, 5.00 News, 5.15 Sports, 5.30 Supersport, 6.00 News, 6.15 The Living World.

ATV MIDLANDS
1.30 p.m. ATV News, 1.45 News, 2.00 The Man Who Could Work Miracles, 2.15 News, 2.30 The Richard and Judy Show, 2.45 News, 3.00 The Richard and Judy Show, 3.15 News, 3.30 The Richard and Judy Show, 3.45 News, 4.00 The Richard and Judy Show, 4.15 News, 4.30 The Richard and Judy Show, 4.45 News, 5.00 The Richard and Judy Show, 5.15 News, 5.30 The Richard and Judy Show, 5.45 News, 6.00 The Richard and Judy Show, 6.15 News, 6.30 The Richard and Judy Show, 6.45 News, 7.00 The Richard and Judy Show, 7.15 News, 7.30 The Richard and Judy Show, 7.45 News, 8.00 The Richard and Judy Show, 8.15 News, 8.30 The Richard and Judy Show, 8.45 News, 9.00 The Richard and Judy Show, 9.15 News, 9.30 The Richard and Judy Show, 9.45 News, 10.00 The Richard and Judy Show, 10.15 News, 10.30 The Richard and Judy Show, 10.45 News, 11.00 The Richard and Judy Show, 11.15 News, 11.30 The Richard and Judy Show, 11.45 News, 12.00 The Richard and Judy Show, 12.15 News, 12.30 The Richard and Judy Show, 12.45 News, 1.00 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Euryanthe and Aida

by RONALD CRICHTON

Euryanthe. Norman Gedda, Krause/Leipzig Chorus/Dresden State Opera. Four in box. HMV Angel

Aida. Caballé, Cossetto, Cappuccelli, Ghislaurov/Chorus/NPO. Three records in box. SLS 877

's Euryanthe is a classic of an opera of extraordinary distinction to a poor libretto. To at Helmina von Chézy's which the too kindly composer dramaturgical intelligence behind his musical must accept some of the not a mess is as up to expect that interludious opera doctors is likely better. This fine and HMV Angel recording in association with slottover and Deutsche iten of East Berlin) opera as printed in the vocal score, with the of the ballet, added by the Berlin production

ard one need not worry about the convolutions of a struggle of evil od, complicated by an took place before a starts—namely the means of a poisoned ie hero Adolar's sister, must be expunged by sing on the ring of tears before the ghost There are other snags: a huge snake co- on their wanderings and Euryanthe and the former, likely to be on the stage, but on a disc for the usic Weber wrote for ie sic for the bad couple, and Lysliart, anticl indeed rivals some of test pazes of Lohmer scenes, especially and immediately before and snake's appearance, urther into the future, Lysliart. The Leipzig Radio

to the third acts of *Tristan* and *Parsifal*, seen to the decay of tonality. Not even Weber could maintain this prophetic level throughout, least of all with this text. There are dips into the familiar fairy-tale world of Freischütz and of the still unwritten *Oberon*, and reminders of Mozart and Fidelio. Marek Janowski, the obviously highly talented Polish-German conductor from the Dortmund Opera, gives every facet of this uneven but continually fascinating score the sharpest possible profile. He is splendidly supported by the Dresden Staatskapelle, gloriously secure, round and mellow yet capable of a wide range of colour, for instance in the peculiarly 'sick' wind-band wedding march for Lysliart and Eglantine.

The virtuous Euryanthe is sung by Jessye Norman with such effortless nobility and outpourings of golden, flexible tone that the girl's failure to extricate herself from an impossible situation by declaring Eglantine's treachery is more than usually unbelievable. Nevertheless, the pleasure of hearing this music voiced so superbly outweighs anything else. What a Kezia in *Overton* Miss Norman would have been, surely, is the *Armide* to rescue Gluck's opera from the doldrums of neglect. Ideally the role of Eglantine calls for a Varney in her prime. Rita Hunter cleverly adapts it to her more precise kind of singing, presenting a selfless, proud, false friend rather than an obvious, haunting villainess. The edge on the firm line effectively hints at fearsome passions seething below. Her last scene, chillingly understated, is a masterpiece of understatement and ever-vigilant is Adolar, singing with such knightly vigour and, in the last scene, such burning vehemence that he succeeds in bringing this cardboard figure to life. An occasional tired note is of small importance. Tom Krause is scarcely less good as Adolar's baritone opponent, Lysliart. The Leipzig Radio

Chorus is keen and well-disciplined. The booklet includes a useful essay by John Warraek, author of the standard English biography of Weber. It is good to see that an unlovely work should be so lucky in the first complete recording, which makes a most enjoyable musical experience out of an opera too easily dismissed as an interesting historical failure. The eight sides pass quickly.

The all-star HMV *Aida* with Muti conducting Caballé, Cossetto, Domingo Cappuccelli and Ghislaurov, which sold so quickly when it first appeared, is available again, and will no doubt continue to bring the cheque books out. Since it was made in Walthamstow with the New Philharmonia, Kneller Hall trumpet and Covent Garden Chorus we can take a share of the credit which makes one realise how rare this has become on an international level there are no British principals. The recording is suitably brilliant, with expert management of the distant choirs in the temple scenes, where the harps that normally plunk so dimly are barely to be heard. The triumph scene on the other hand is so near that the listener feels part of the crowd, a privilege about which one may feel fairly dubious. One misadventure is the voice of Amneris in the last scene, sudden and forceful, as though she had popped up in the tomb between *Aida* and *Radames*.

The NPO plays excellently for its chief conductor. String tremolos (there are a lot of them in *Aida*) are disciplined and unanimous. One hears the notes, not just a vague fuzz. The flute playing in the Nile scene is exceptional. Muti takes the ensembles at a clip. His care for rhythm and articulation ensure detail and clarity, but one feels hurried and sometimes longs for a touch of Levantine leisure. Caballé's *Aida* displays the size as well as the delicacy of her voice. She is at her best,

needless to say, in the third and fourth acts, singing with marvelously pure, splinting phrases on a useful essay by John Warraek, endless breath, the soft high notes not petering out or snatched off but held as long as Verdi requires. What one misses is full identification with the recording, which makes a most enjoyable musical experience out of an opera too easily dismissed as an interesting historical failure. The eight sides pass quickly.

Caballé's superb use of her voice nevertheless fires Domingo in those same acts to what must surely be the best performance of *Radames* since the days of Martinelli and Gigli. He is virtuosic but not brutish, lyrical but not soppy. The sound is glorious. A natural distinction enables him even when singing full out to avoid exaggeration or vulgarity. Those who like Cossetto and Cappuccelli will like them very much here. Cossetto's Amneris is a formidable little spitfire (note the burst of spiteful triumph when the King announces her betrothal to *Radames*) with dagger-like projection and tone so compact and wiry you could hang pictures on it.

Cappuccelli's Amneris is equally formidable, and to this reviewer equally unsympathetic (neither Amneris nor Amneris have to be lovable, but Verdi who understood so much of human nature, gave them their share of humanity). He is immensely efficient, unwavering line without nobility or warmth—cold, calculating, fanatical. Ghislaurov as Ramphis the Chief Priest is deeply imposing, apart from some coarse notes in act 2. The tiny part of the Messenger is taken by Nicola Martinucci. Lively ladies, especially the lovely Handsome booklet, with libretto and English translation. Harold Rosenthal's note rather maliciously quotes a letter from Verdi to Ricordi lamenting the increased attention paid to conductors. One way and another, a notable addition to the six *Aidas* already in the catalogue.

ray Gallery/William Darby

Landscapes and still life

by WILLIAM PACKER

a kind of painting we brought up to, who above all, but we saw them before the Flood: not Manet, Degas and Cézanne, necessarily in the great through the filter of our English eyes and sensibility. We knew reform changed the Colleges, and sensitive for our place, and ambition accord, perhaps for ever, ten years ago. Painting was held lightly as modest: simply to draw a our model, and we well, paint properly, and see them Sickert and Camden clearly. Intelligent observation. But, curiously, the very institution Stanley Spencer for married to sound technique tions that had nourished The great masters would ensure at least that the

of the past, of course, were held artist retained his self-respect while he starved in his garret. It is easy to make fun of such honourable intentions, and when reform changed the Colleges, and sensitive for our place, and ambition accord, perhaps for ever, ten years ago. Painting was held lightly as modest: simply to draw a our model, and we well, paint properly, and see them Sickert and Camden clearly. Intelligent observation. But, curiously, the very institution Stanley Spencer for married to sound technique tions that had nourished The great masters would ensure at least that the

bury preserving those of Reaction. The Slade, the Academy Schools, and the Royal College, that have always drawn to themselves the best and brightest post-graduate students, have turned out to be the bastions of the old order. And the old order they defended has proved to be not so ludicrous after all. We can look again at the English painting of the last hundred years without blushing, or apologising, or feeling that we are indulging a perverse taste. This easier climate of critical re-assessment has helped contemporary figurative painters, the surveyors, who came out from cover some time ago, reeking nicely of turpentine and linseed oil.

At the Thackeray Gallery in Kensington, Ben Levene is showing his work of the last two years, a mixture of landscape and still-life painting. His painting is vigorous, the colour clean and strong, the handling confident and energetic. He is drawn always towards pattern, not as an easy decorative ploy, but as a simplified description. It might be the eccentric patch-work of Herefordshire fields, or the more regular geometry of a Keltin rug, but in either case our eyes are led deep into the picture space. But pattern is decorative, it does lie on the surface of things. He is aided by the bright colour, which is extremely lush and constantly to the surface of the painting itself, always reminding us that a painting is a thing as well as an illusionary device. Levene engages in this visual debate deliberately and successfully. Shadows cast onto a screen parallel to the picture-plane, a tree reduced to a stark flat silhouette, the issue is raised with every brushstroke.

This, however, is not a self-conscious nor laboured emphasis, but simply a natural part of the business of painting pictures. Everything that is made must refer in some way, even unconsciously, to its making, and we need not be too astonished that a painting does. Levene starts with the visible world, and his interest in it, and the rest follows, images of pots and jars, flowers, gardens, fields and fountains, moors and mountains. Perhaps he is distracted at times by the sheer prettiness of colour, and the richness of oil paint, weaknesses a Romantic, but if he wobbles, he does not fall.

Anthony Eyton is an alumnus of Camberwell College of Art, even more so than any of the others, for the open stand it took, the Masada of English painting. Whether it will come to a bad end, we must wait to see. In recent years, he has shown recent town and landscapes, and some essays in figure composition, at William Darby's new gallery in Bond Street. The figure paintings, large, bold, scenes, represent the polite and decorous expressionism so acceptable to English taste, evidently skilful, well-observed, but undecided and unfinished. But the landscapes of Italy are altogether tougher, academic post-impressionism, again palpably English, but resolved and consistent, and rather distinguished. It is the kind of painting, through being undemonstrative and orthodox, and unspectacular, that it is all too easy to miss, and this would be a mistake.

MAX LOPPERT

Avalon Singers at the Purcell Room

The Avalon Singers, a women's choir recruited by audition from Women's Institutes in South-east England, will give a concert at the Purcell Room on November 19 at 7.30 p.m. under Antony Hopkins.

The programme includes the first London performance of *Madrigal* to *Concorde* by Antony Hopkins and an English Duet-book by Elizabeth Poston.



Ben Levene: Still life with dead chrysanthemums

il Hall

dré Tchaikovsky's concerto

t and glorious tradition encouraged by the presence of the same orchestra, the Royal Philharmonic. At best, in the central *Cappriccio* movement, something of an individual personality, who might expected to produce in use one of those thunderous marches in a certain kind of success, has instead for Radu Lupu a con-

honestly attempts to a disciplined and conceived musical in which all extra-no fireworks have ly abjured. om the outset rather to encounter music ind, concerned with struction (the com- dres), made with co-classical materials and determined the helpful contrast, of David Morgan's

new piece on Sunday was the provision of a new performing personality for Radu Lupu, one much spikier and less self-possessed than he has so far disclosed in London, and rewarding to meet. On this form, forward-thrusting as well as dreamy-toned, a whole range of greater 20th-century piano concertos awaits his attention.

Elsewhere, in the Introduction and *Pasacaglia*, but more so in the Finale, brandishing its fugue, sonata and toccata, a want of burning organic energy to be revealed behind the formal gestures. It will be interesting to hear the work again, with an orchestra, and the shift- ing rhythmic patterning than were the RPO and Uri Segal. An important novelty that cannot be undervalued in the concerto is



Susan Fleetwood, Stephen Rea and Margaret Whiting in 'The Playboy of the Western World,' which opened last night at the Old Vic

Lyric

The Sea Gull

by B. A. YOUNG

The Lyric Theatre Company begins its season well with a *Scagull* for rather, for some reason, a *Sea Gull* that admirably displays the quality and the even matching of the players. Under Lindsay Anderson's direction, there is among the company the standard of team-work that in these days of devalued stars is held up as the ideal to be sought.

The production is classic and without mannerisms. Soliloquies are spoken straight out to the house, usually from right downstage. Alan Tagg's sets and costumes provide an atmosphere into which we can immerse ourselves at once as if it were familiar in our own lives. Details are scrupulously observed; see the untidy lateral creases, for instance, at the back of the knees of Konstantin's trousers, which he has not changed for three years, and compare them with the neatness of Trigorin's country clothes.

Joan Plowright's performance as Arkadina is exactly judged. When she breaks into a passionate vibrato, she has moved from her private behaviour to the consciousness of being watched, and therefore of being judged. Her embarrassing passion as she falls to her knees before the unforgiving Trigorin and clasps him round the legs is calculated, for all its humiliating

foolishness, for she is playing to someone she needs to impress; whereas a moment before, when she had lost her temper with her son, the anger was genuine and artless. For Konstantin's opinion means little to her. Trigorin is played by Peter McNery, who gave Konstantin at the theatre next door a decade ago. It is a first-class performance, beautifully shaped in a rising curve. On his first visit to the house, he is reserved and shy, and the director keeps him out of the centre of things. Only after he has revealed his weakness for Nina do his emotions

goes on here, he is saying. The curtain-line is a difficult one; what is to happen after its delving, with half-a-dozen people at the card table unaware of the true dimensions of the tragedy? Mr. Anderson allows the chatter to go on for half-a-minute before freezing the scene in an unresolved tableau and fading the lights. Unresolution is the keynote of the play, after all.

The curve of Helen Mirren's Nina is the reciprocal of Peter McNery's Trigorin: she begins with a full charge of young sentiment and ends, in the end final visit through the garden window, with her batteries almost exhausted, speaking her lines with a flat monotony—too flat, perhaps—expressive of her spiritual exhaustion. The contrast is powerfully moving: in Act 1 she is radiant and pretty, in Act 4, her hair drawn tightly back from her face, she is like a parody schoolmistress. The comparison of her two deliveries of the opening of Konstantin's play, the first time full of hope and belief, the second time tinged only with mechanical emotions, tells the whole story. Konstantin's hopes and beliefs, in Frank Grimes's moving performance, wear out quickly. His piece is played, he sits day, where it will play until the end of the week. It will then tour in Aberystwyth, Cwmbran, Bangor and Swansea.

After his angry exit to that scene he remains sulky, hardly able to be nice to Nina, not trying to be nice to Masha, melting briefly as his mother changes his bandage but hardening again at once. In the last act he has become a writing robot, until his dismay at Nina's ultimate avowal of her love for Trigorin drives him to his end.

There is good work by John Moffatt as Sorin—an old man with a young mind—Patsy Rowlands as Paulina and Leonard Fenton as her gauche husband, and especially by Patricia Healey as a Masha whose spiritual decay has by no means extinguished her personal charm.

Tredegar opening for 'Aneurin Bevan'

The first night of *Aneurin Bevan*, a new play by David Illingworth commissioned by the Welsh Drama Company, will be held at the Miners' Welfare Hall at Tredegar next Monday, November 3.

It moves to the Sherman Theatre, Cardiff, the following day, where it will play until the end of the week. It will then tour in Aberystwyth, Cwmbran, Bangor and Swansea.

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ENGLISH STATISTICIAN

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WORLD TRADE NEWS

Nine months' car import bill £9m. above exports

BY TERRY DODSWORTH, MOTOR INDUSTRY CORRESPONDENT

U.K. EXPENDITURE on car imports has gone up by 50 per cent over the first nine months of this year, raising the car import bill, at £882m., to £9m. more than the revenue earned by car exports.

Taking all production sectors other than new cars, however, the British motor industry is enjoying buoyant exports this year.

Helped by rising commercial vehicle, component and specialist vehicle sales, total export earnings for the nine months jumped 43 per cent above a year earlier to £1.5bn. For September alone, shipments were up 40 per cent.

Imports by value between January and September 30 increased 37 per cent to £1.1bn, giving an export surplus of £11m.

The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders said yesterday that the U.K. industry was "well on target" to achieve total 1975 exports exceeding £2.2bn.

Commercial vehicle sales abroad have proved particularly successful this year, earning £314m., or 88 per cent above a year earlier.

At the same time, the import penetration of commercial vehicles has been pushed back dramatically, and despite inflation, the value of imported vans below 3 tons gross vehicle weight dropped to £10.7m. over the nine months, against £13.4m.

Larger commercial vehicles have cost Britain £59m., an increase of 11 per cent, or much less than the current rate of inflation.

The components sector remains by far the largest single earner of export revenue within the motor industry, with exports in the nine months up 37 per cent to £820m., compared with £604m. Specialist vehicles—tractors, dumpers, trailers and caravans—have also expanded rapidly, and at £382m. for January-September earned more than car exports.

In the same period last year, export earnings from specialist vehicles lagged behind cars by £70m.

Imports of specialist vehicles, however, have equally risen sharply, to £68m. for the nine months, against £48.7m. It is in this area that the second British anti-dumping case—against UMO, the Russian dump truck manufacturer—has just been filed.

E. Europe still wants goods from the West

By David Lascelles

ALARMED BY reports that their economic difficulties will lead to cutbacks in trade, the East European countries have stressed in recent weeks that they still want to import from the West, and that Western businessmen are welcome.

They do not deny, however, that their trade is in deficit and that efforts are being made to achieve a better balance. They say, though, that this can be done by exporting more rather than by importing less.

All the Comecon countries are currently going through a difficult patch because of the crisis in the Western world and an inflation which they have been powerless to keep out. Even the Soviet Union is caught between the rising cost of living and the difficulty of selling more to depressed Western markets.

Among the most anxious are the Hungarians, who said at the time of the Budapest Fair earlier this month that their deficit should not be taken to mean that they are no longer in the market as buyers.

Their trade was not so rigidly conducted, they explained, that it had to be balanced exactly. They still had the resources to import, and would continue to do so even if their exports did not pick up immediately. Their long term aim, however, was to trim unnecessary imports and concentrate on selling more to the West.

Poland, too, has reacted sharply to reports that its phase of heavy capital purchases is over. The bulk of the present Government's investment programme may have been achieved, but there were still several large contracts in the pipeline, officials say. These include complete plants for vehicles and major projects in raw materials and coal. Nevertheless, Poland will be more concerned with exports from now on, aiming to balance out its Western deficit of some \$2.2bn. by 1980.

A similar call to keep up the momentum of trade has been made by Romania, when President Ceausescu indicated that the country's adverse trade balance would have to be corrected.

Several Comecon countries have made the point that the progressive exporters are predicting a further decline in Western currencies against certain Western currencies gives countries like Britain a useful competitive edge.

In making these calls for more trade, the East Europeans are plainly anxious to keep their own development rhythm up, whatever happens in the West. So long as they can get Western credits and loans, which they are taking up in unprecedented amounts this year, they will be able to finance the gap.

It is also obviously in their interest to have as many foreign companies competing for contracts as possible, to keep prices down. If the West's interest slackened too far, Comecon could find itself faced with just a few companies offering take-it-or-leave-it terms.

IN BRIEF

Denmark's deficit

Denmark's trade gap widened in September to Kr.560m. (\$68.9m). Imports were Kr.5.06bn. (\$610m.), against Kr.4.51bn. (\$537m.), while exports reached Kr.4.21bn. (\$511m.), compared with Kr.4.18bn. (\$503m.). For the third quarter, imports were Kr.13.85bn. (\$1.2bn.) and exports Kr.11.36bn. (\$1.2m.), producing a trade gap of Kr.2.49bn. (\$202m.) against Kr.2.88bn. (\$234m.).

Export Contracts

BIWATER TREATMENT, Dorking, is to provide a water supply scheme to 13 villages and two towns within Benue Plateau State, Nigeria, at a cost of £10.5m. Time schedule for completion is so tight that 85 per cent of equipment and supplies, including 16 miles of PVC pipe-work, will be airfreighted. The contract is the company's first in Nigeria, and follows contacts made by a Bristol Chamber of Commerce mission.

ILLUS will manufacture hinged-lid cigarette packing machinery valued at £1.5m. for Philip Morris International.

EEC complains to Japan on car import barriers

BY PETER DUMINY

TOKYO, Oct. 29.

THE European Community has made formal representations to Japan about non-tariff barriers impeding foreign motor-car sales in Japan. It is also taking a strong line on short-term steel export strategies.

Mr. Carlo Scarascia-Mugnozza, a vice-president of the EEC Commission, said today. He was answering questions at a Press conference marking the official opening of the EEC Representative Office here.

The submission on cars was presented to the Japanese last week. Mr. Scarascia-Mugnozza stated. He had emphasised the importance of the question at a meeting with Mr. Toshio Komoto, Minister of International Trade and Industry.

The barriers confronting European cars in Japan are mainly environmental and safety standards, he pointed out. He was no doubt alluding not only to the fact that European car exports to Japan are minute in comparison with the reverse flow of Japanese products but also to the present prospect that sales will shrink as Japanese clean air and other requirements get progressively stiffer.

The Europeans are not asking Japan to drop its anti-pollution objectives, but are concentrating on the fact that standards means of satisfying them and methods of testing, have been drawn up in consultation with Japanese.

They automatically tend to discriminate against suppliers, such as those in Europe, whose production designs and methods have not been taken into consideration.

Mr. Scarascia-Mugnozza revealed that the Japanese reaction had been "positive, in that serious study of the problem is promised."

On steel, the vice-president said he had not been deputed to make representations for the Community, but had taken the opportunity to try to make the Japanese more sensible about the problems "in advance of meetings to be held at Brussels in December."

The EEC is known to be anxious about recent falls in world steel prices, as well as Japanese inroads into the European market. "IITRI has declared that the situation is getting to be stabilised, but we are not in a position to judge whether this is true, especially as regards prices," stated Mr. Scarascia-Mugnozza.

It is believed the Japanese side has "foreseen" a sharp decline in steel shipments to Europe this quarter. While the community is willing to take this on trust, it still wants some form of international monitoring of pricing policies, probably under the auspices of the OECD. The Japanese have yet to agree to

Malaysia's investment policy

By Kevin Rafferty

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct. 29. MALAYSIA HAS spelled out new tougher guidelines for potential foreign investors. Under them, only companies using imported components entirely for export will be allowed to remain under foreign control.

The details were given at an officially-organised investment seminar in the Malaysian capital by Datuk Hamzah Abu Samah, Minister of Trade and Industries. He stressed that companies already in Malaysia would have to conform with the guidelines, which means that a number of old-established British concerns—notably in plantations and mining—will come under increasing pressure to reduce their foreign ownership. Discussions with the Government on dilution of the equity will be on a company-by-company basis.

Britain has traditionally been the largest foreign investor in Malaysia, with book value of investments of £500m.

The general Malaysian aim is that foreign investment should be allowed in the proportion of 50 per cent foreign equity and 50 per cent Malaysian, including 30 per cent bumiputra (or indigenous) Malay.

Datuk Hamzah alluded to some variations for the benefit of potential investors. New import substitution products must have a 100 per cent Malaysian ownership. "We do not require massive foreign technology for the manufacture of ordinary bricks, which many of such products which are Malaysian-owned are already in existence."

However, industries exporting more than 80 per cent of their production and using mainly imported materials "could be considered for majority foreign ownership, ranging from 51 to 70 per cent, depending on the nature of the project, its contribution to the economy and its location," he said. In exceptional circumstances 100 per cent foreign ownership might be considered.

Export-orientated industries using non-petroleum raw materials must have Malaysian ownership, ranging between 45 and 70 per cent, and export-orientated industries using petroleum raw materials would be allowed a maximum of 40 per cent foreign ownership, although such companies might initially be allowed 35 to 45 per cent foreign holdings.

Datuk Hamzah gave an assurance that the Government would not take over or nationalise foreign manufacturing companies.

N. Yemen may stop imports from Japan

BY CHARLES SMITH, FAR EAST EDITOR

TOKYO, Oct. 29.

JAPAN IS about to be faced with the total suspension of its exports to North Yemen in reprisal for its failure to resume imports of Yemeni rock salt, according to reports reaching here from the agents in Sana of Japanese manufacturers.

The reports of a total stoppage in exports have not been confirmed by the Japanese Ministry, which keeps in touch with the Sana Government through the Japanese embassy in Saudi Arabia.

It is admitted, however, that the tiny Arab country appears to be preparing some fairly drastic action against Japanese exports. If Yemen does act as predicted, its behaviour could set an exceedingly awkward precedent for other small countries burdened by heavy trade deficits with Japan.

Japan has a huge surplus on its trade with North Yemen (exports \$40m., imports \$2m.), the backbone of Yemen's exports of around 100,000 tons a year of Yemeni rock salt. The tons a year of Yemeni rock salt were scaled down and finally 25 poorest countries and has a terminated in the early 1970s as chronic overall trade imbalance a result of a combination of

economic and environmental considerations.

The Yemenis have been pressing Japan to start buying rock salt again, and managed to extract a promise of an early decision on the matter from Mr. C. Hatano, the Japanese Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, who visited Sana in August.

Mr. Hatano told the Yemenis that the Japanese Government would settle the rock salt issue by October 15 at the latest, but the deadline passed without any decision by the Japanese Ministry of Commerce.

The Yemenis appear to have lost patience with Japan's inactivity on the issue. There are also said to be resentments in Sana over Japan's failure to act on a vague promise of project aid which was made in the context of the Yemeni relations with North Yemen.

The Japanese Government has been slow to react to the extreme reaction from the Sana Government, which could set an example for other small and poor countries dissatisfied with Japan's economic behaviour.

The Foreign Ministry said it attaches importance to Japan's relations with North Yemen and plans to open an embassy in Sana next year if it can get the necessary funds from the Ministry of Finance. In the meantime the Government seems to be running the risk of provoking an extreme reaction from the Sana Government, which could set an example for other small and poor countries dissatisfied with Japan's economic behaviour.

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337	824	1075	1280	1346	1913	2315	2753	3293	3290
363	825	1076	1281	1347	1914	2316	2754	3294	3291
389	826	1077	1282	1348	1915	2317	2755	3295	3292
415	827	1078	1283	1349	1916	2318	2756	3296	3293
441	828	1079	1284	1350	1917	2319	2757	3297	3294
467	829	1080	1285	1351	1918	2320	2758	3298	3295
493	830	1081	1286	1352	1919	2321	2759	3299	3296
519	831	1082	1287	1353	1920	2322	2760	3300	3297
545	832	1083	1288	1354	1921	2323	2761	3301	3298
571	833	1084	1289	1355	1922	2324	2762	3302	3299
597	834	1085	1290	1356	1923	2325	2763	3303	3300
623	835	1086	1291	1357	1924	2326	2764	3304	3301
649	836	1087	1292	1358	1925	2327	2765	3305	3302
675	837	1088	1293	1359	1926	2328	2766	3306	3303
701	838	1089	1294	1360	1927	2329	2767	3307	3304
727	839	1090	1295	1361	1928	2330	2768	3308	3305
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831	843	1094	1299	1365	1932	2334	2772	3312	3309
857	844	1095	1300	1366	1933	2335	2773	3313	3310
883	845	1096	1301	1367	1934	2336	2774	3314	3311
909	846	1097	1302	1368	1935	2337	2775	3315	3312
935	847	1098	1303	1369	1936	2338	2776	3316	3313
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1039	851	1102	1307	1373	1940	2342	2780	3320	3317
1065	852	1103	1308	1374	1941	2343	2781	3321	3318
1091	853	1104	1309	1375	1942	2344	2782	3322	3319
1117	854	1105	1310	1376	1943	2345	2783	3323	3320
1143	855	1106	1311	1377	1944	2346	2784	3324	3321
1169	856	1107	1312	1378	1945	2347	2785	3325	3322
1195	857	1108	1313	1379	1946	2348	2786	3326	3323
1221	858	1109	1314	1380	1947	2349	2787	3327	3324
1247	859	1110	1315	1381	1948	2350	2788	3328	3325
1273	860	1111	1316	1382	1949	2351	2789	3329	3326
1299	861	1112	1317	1383	1950	2352	2790	3330	3327
1325	862	1113	1318	1384	1951	2353	2791	3331	3328
1351	863	1114	1319	1385	1952	2354	2792	3332	3329
1377	864	1115	1320	1386	1953	2355	2793	3333	3330
1403	865	1116	1321	1387	1954	2356	2794	3334	3331
1429	866	1117	1322	1388	1955	2357	2795	3335	3332
1455	867	1118	1323	1389	1956	2358	2796	3336	3333
1481	868	1119	1324	1390	1957	2359	2797	3337	3334
1507	869	1120	1325	1391	1958	2360	2798	3338	3335
1533	870	1121	1326	1392	1959	2361	2799	3339	3336
1559	871	1122	1327	1393	1960	2362	2800	3340	3337
1585	872	1123	1328	1394	1961	2363	2801	3341	3338
1611	873	1124	1329	1395	1962	2364	2802	3342	3339
1637	874	1125	1330	1396	1963	2365	2803	3343	3340
1663	875	1126	1331	1397	1964	2366	2804	3344	3341
1689	876	1127	1332	1398	1965	2367	2805	3345	3342
1715	877	1128	1333	1399	1966	2368	2806	3346	3343
1741	878	1129	1334	1400	1967	2369	2807	3347	3344
1767	879	1130	1335	1401	1968	2370	2808	3348	3345
1793	880	1131	1336	1402	1969	2371	2809	3349	3346
1819	881	1132	1337	1403	1970	2372	2810	3350	3347
1845	882	1133	1338	1404	1971	2373	2811	3351	3348
1871	883	1134	1339	1405	1972	2374	2812	3352	3349
1897	884	1135	1340	1406	1973	2375	2813	3353	3350
1923	885	1136	1341	1407	1974	2376	2814	3354	3351
1949	886	1137	1342	1408	1975	2377	2815	3355	3352
1975	887	1138	1343	1409	1976	2378	2816	3356	3353
2001	888	1139	1344	1410	1977	2379	2817	3357	3354
2027	889	1140	1345	1411	1978	2380	2818	3358	3355
2053	890	1141	1346	1412	1979	2381	2819	3359	3356
2079	891	1142	1347	1413	1980	2382	2820	3360	3357
2105	892	1143	1348	1414	1981	2383	2821	3361	3358
2131	893	1144	1349	1415	1982	2384	2822	3362	3359
2157	894	1145	1350	1416	1983	2385	2823	3363	3360
2183	895	1146	1351	1417	1984	2386	2824	3364	3361
2209	896	1147	1352	1418	1985	2387	2825	3365	3362
2235	897	1148	1353	1419	1986	2388	2826	3366	3363
2261	898	1149	1354	1420	1987	2389	2827	3367	3364
2287	899	1150	1355	1421	1988	2390	2828	3368	3365
2313	900	1151	1356	1422	1989	2391	2829	3369	3366
2339	901	1152	1357	1423	1990	2392	2830	3370	3367
2365	902	1153	1358	1424	1991	2393	2831	3371	3368
2391	903	1154	1359	1425	1992	2394	2832	3372	3369
2417	904	1155	1360	1426	1993	2395	2833	3373	3370
2443	905	1156	1361	1427	1994	2396	2834	3374	3371
2469	906	1157	1362	1428	1995	2397	2835	3375	3372
2495	907	1158	1363	1429	1996	2398	2836	3376	3373
2521	908	1159	1364	1430	1997	2399	2837	3377	3374
2547	909	1160	1365	1431	1998	2400	2838	3378	3375
2573	910	1161	1366	1432	1999	2401	2839	3379	3376
2599	911	1162	1367	1433	2000	2402	2840	3380	3377
2625	912	1163	1368	1434	2001	2403	2841	3381	3378
2651	913	1164	1369	1435	2002	2404	2842	3382	3379
2677	914	1165	1370	1436	2003	2405	2843	3383	3380
2703	915	1166	1371	1437	2004	2406	2844	3384	3381
2729	916	1167	1372	1438	2005	2407	2845	3385	3382
2755	917	1168	1373	1439	2006	2408	2846	3386	3383
2781	918	1169	1374	1440	2007	2409	2847	3387	3384
2807	919	1170	1375	1441	2008	2410	2848	3388	3385
2833	920	1171	1376	1442	2009	2411	2849	3389	3386
2859	921	1172	1377	1443	2010	2412	2850	3390	3387
2885	922	1173	1378	1444	2011	2413	2851	3391	3388
2911	923	1174	1379	1445	2012	2414	2852	3392	3389
2937	924	1175	1380	1446	2013	2415	2853	3393	3390
2963	925	1176	1381	1447	2014	2416	2854	3394	3391
2989	926	1177	1382	1448	2015	2417	2855	3395	3392
3015	927	1178	1383	1449	2016	2418	2856	3396	3393
3041	928	1179	1384	1450	2017	2419	2857	3397	3394
3067	929	1180	1385	1451	2018	2420	2858	3398	3395
3093	930	1181	1386	1452	2019	2421	2859	3399	3396
3119	931	1182	1387	1453	2020	2422	2860	3400	3397
3145	932	1183	1388	1454	2021	2423	2861	3401	3398
3171	933	1184	1389	1455	2022	2424	2862	3402	3399
3197	934	1185	1390	1456	2023	2425	2863	3403	3400
3223	935	1186	1391	1457	2024	2426	2864	3404	3401
3249	936	1187	1392	1458	2025	2427	2865	3405	3402
3275	937	1188	1393	1459	2026	2428	2866	3406	3403
3301	938	1189	1394	1460	2027	2429	2867	3407	3404
3327	939	1190	1395	1461	2028	2430	2868	3408	3405
3353	940	1191	1396	1462	2029	2431	2869	3409	3406
3379	941	1192	1397	1463	2030	2432	2870	3410	3407
3405	942	1193	1398	1464	2031	2433	2871	3411	3408
3431	943	1194	1399	1465	2032	2434	2872	3412	3409
3457	944	1195	1400	1466	2033	2435	2873	3413	3410
3483	945	1196	14						

Ford obdurate over New York bankruptcy finances

PAUL LEWIS, U.S. EDITOR

DENT FORD publicly lied himself to the bank of New York City today, saying for new legislation to be essential services and to finance back on a footing if it defaults on its debt.

President's proposals set a speech at the National Club this morning, bought freighting in his hostility to federal assistance for the city to continue paying for essential public services out of existing revenues. The court would also authorise the city to raise new loans to meet its short-term needs which would be paid back out of future revenues ahead of all other creditors.

In this way, the city would be given a financial "breathing space" during which it could reorganise its finances to bring expenditures and revenue back into line. At the same time, the city authorities would be required to present a credible plan for putting the city back on a sound financial basis.

The President emphasised that taxpayers were willing to support.

The essence of President Ford's new proposal is that the existing bankruptcy laws should be amended to enable the city of New York to file for bankruptcy with the courts, in much the same way as an individual or company.

Once it had done this, there would be an automatic stay of all suits by creditors—enabling the city to continue paying for essential public services out of existing revenues. The court would also authorise the city to raise new loans to meet its short-term needs which would be paid back out of future revenues ahead of all other creditors.

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WASHINGTON, Oct. 29.

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The victim, Alberto Salas, a 43-year-old Argentine, was personnel manager of Fiat's diversified products division, one of whose plants is Materfer, Latin America's largest rolling stock producer.

On October 20, Fiat closed the Materfer plant for an "indefinite" period alleging that death threats against its executives by union activists had made it impossible to re-establish "order, authority and the rhythm of production."

However, obeying a Labour Ministry injunction, Fiat reopened Materfer the following day.

A few hours before the murder of the Fiat executive this morning, six union leaders employed at the Government's shipyard at Rio Santiago were kidnapped by armed men at the headquarters of the Association of State Workers in La Plata, the capital of Buenos Aires province. The kidnappers left a message on the union premises declaring that the six hostages will be "executed" "at night if the demands for wage rises by workers at the Rio Santiago shipyard are not met."

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Argentina guerillas 'execute' Fiat official

By Robert Lindley
BUENOS AIRES, Oct. 29.

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ST. LUCIA IN THE CARIBBEAN

Troubles of a small island

BY DAVID RENWICK RECENTLY IN CASTRIES

ST. LUCIA in the Caribbean is apparently willing to help, but has not yet received permission from either the Canadian or British Governments to include St. Lucia on its Toronto and London flights, despite the most fervent desire of the St. Lucian Government that it should do so.

The need for greatly increased air services is highlighted by the fact that even if all the aircraft flying into St. Lucia, including the current available hotel capacity would still only be 73 per cent occupied.

There are 1,200 first-class hotel rooms, a figure exceeded in the CARICOM region only by Jamaica, Barbados, and Trinidad and Tobago. Some \$1,576

was supposed to be an integrated development, involving high-quality, expatriate-owned homes, hotels and commercial sites, but relatively little construction has actually taken place.

As elsewhere in the Caribbean, imported inflation has been a threat to the Government's programmes. Higher charges for local public utilities, such as water and telephones, have made the situation worse. St. Lucia's living costs rose 34.2 per cent last year, exceeded in the CARICOM area only by St. Vincent, Dominica and Barbados.

Throughout these stresses and strains, Mr. Compton's United Workers Party Government has managed to steer a cautious

course, assisted by external aid from such sources as the Canadian and British Governments, the Caribbean Development Bank and the Commonwealth Development Corporation. Indeed, the CDC's last annual report noted that the Corporation's investment of \$84m. in St. Lucia Labour Party's seven), can ill afford any worsening of the unemployment situation at this stage. Unemployment is officially put at "between 10 to 12 per cent" and "over 15 per cent" among the teenagers.

There is the usual drift from the land, worsened this year by the severe drought which affected the banana crop. An estimated East Carib \$12m. has been lost in banana export receipts alone. The original output target was 50,000 tons, but the harvest will almost certainly be about 34,000, the lowest level for many years.

The recession in North America has affected land development schemes, such as the much-heralded Rodney Bay project, in which both the St. Lucian Government and the Commonwealth Development Corporation are shareholders. Rodney Bay

tourists came to the island last year and spent over East Carib \$8m., making tourism the second most important area of economic activity after banana growing.

Mr. Compton, who won last year's general election rather more narrowly than he had expected by 10 seats to the St. Lucia Labour Party's seven), can ill afford any worsening of the unemployment situation at this stage. Unemployment is officially put at "between 10 to 12 per cent" and "over 15 per cent" among the teenagers.

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Because we are still an associated state, we don't have the authority to negotiate... aircraft route rights" — Prime Minister John Compton

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lians claim tabasca sands

BY JAY PALMER
MONTREAL, Oct. 29.

NDIAN Association of has claimed ownership of 100,000 square miles of uprisings the main Athabasca sands deposits north of Edmonton. The Association is of intention to make a deal with the provincial government, and theoretically if the Registrar accepts the Association would days to prove its claim.

The Alberta Supreme Court association said that the lians living in the area it settle for less than independence.

It was not clear whether the claim was regarded as a point in the process between the groups and the Alberta government for an economic treaty.

Postmaster-General Acksey said tonight issues in a pay dispute among postal workers remained unsettled in contract.

"But for the first time that we have made press," the Postmaster said.

Provide names, says SEC

BY JAY PALMER
NEW YORK, Oct. 29.

LOCKHEED Aircraft's desperate legal battle to protect the identity of foreign Government officials bribed to promote the company's overseas sales now faces a major stumbling block.

The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, which is investigating the aerospace company's admitted payments of more than \$22m. in foreign bribes since 1970, yesterday rejected a court scheme supported by the company to keep names secret.

The SEC argued that such a court sanctioned arrangement would set an impossible precedent for the agency's continuing investigations into a number of companies foreign pay-offs. It added that any such deal would also effectively block the Agency from ever completing its planned suit against Lockheed.

Lockheed has admitted, in various different disclosures before federal Government investigators, making under-the-table payments to Government officials in 15 foreign countries, including one unidentified nation in Western Europe. The company has consistently refused to make public either individual names or details on the grounds that such disclosure would jeopardise present and future sales.

While the SEC in principle does not seem unwilling to consider some sort of deal with Lockheed, it is clearly not willing to go so far as to prejudice its case against that company.

Transport delays affect Alaska oil costs

HOUSTON, Oct. 29.

ALTHOUGH development of Atlantic Richfield company's oil and gas reserves on the north slope of Alaska was on schedule, temporary delays encountered in moving construction and permanent facility equipment to the Prudhoe Bay field by barge would probably cost the company \$25-30m., according to the company's chairman Mr. Robert O. Anderson.

He told a meeting of security analysts yesterday that the dramatic passage through unreasonably heavy ice north of Point Barrow had created understandable concern in the company.

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New lease of life for Shaheen refinery

By Lyndon Watkins
HALIFAX, Nova Scotia, Oct. 29.

NEW YORK industrialist Mr. John Shaheen has averted disaster at his 100,000 barrel a day Newfoundland Refinery at Come-by-Chance by raising \$60m. in additional working capital from European and U.S. sources.

The action follows threatened foreclosure moves against two of the Canadian subsidiaries of Shaheen Natural Resources of New York, Newfoundland Refining, and Provincial Refining, operators of the Come-by-Chance plant.

Late last week First National Bank of Chicago moved to have a receiver appointed to protect its interest in the refinery. A statement issued on Mr. Shaheen's behalf on Tuesday said, however, that agreement had been reached to obtain the additional working capital and the plant will continue operating under the same ownership.

Source of the funds and terms of the financing were not disclosed but the money believed to have come from British, French and U.S. banks. The Shaheen statement said adequate security had been provided to the lenders.

Principal creditors are the Export Credit Guarantee Department of the British Government, the Newfoundland Government, the First National Bank of Chicago, and Universal Oil Products of Chicago, whose subsidiary Process Great Britain built the \$150m. refinery.

ECGD guaranteed \$110m. of funds from British banks covering the purchase of the refinery. It has a first mortgage on the assets. The Newfoundland Government, which guaranteed \$41m. has a second mortgage. The Chicago Bank's interest is subordinated to more than \$20m. Universal Oil Products is owed \$16.3m. UOP said it will take over the running of the refinery and will provide financial support. A Shaheen spokesman said this will in no way affect the ownership of the refinery.

Six months ago Shaheen denied suggestions that British Petroleum, a major supplier of crude oil to the refinery would take over ownership of the plant. Market and mechanical problems have dogged the plant since it opened 21 months ago. Originally about 60 per cent of the output was to have been sold in the U.S.

But import tariffs and falling demand forced the company to divert product to the Eastern Canadian market already saturated by an excess of refining capacity. As a result prices sagged, Shaheen said. Some of the Newfoundland output has been sold in Western Europe and a company spokesman said it appeared that it has turned the corner in meeting the worst of its problems.

He said the \$11m. had been paid off in principal and interest since the operation began.

Despite these assurances it seems unlikely that plans for a \$187m. expansion of the refinery to produce petrochemical feedstock will take place as expected.

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SHEFFIELD	2hr 30min
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BRISTOL	1hr 45min
CARDIFF	2hr 12min
SOUTHAMPTON	1hr 10min
LEICESTER	1hr 24min
PLYMOUTH	3hr 34min
NOTTINGHAM	1hr 58min
STOKE-ON-TRENT	1hr 45min

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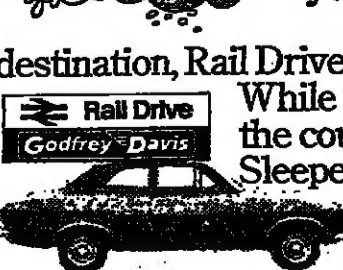
shouldn't be too difficult. Catch up on a spot of work perhaps. Or enjoy one of our famous breakfasts, splendid lunches or dinners. Afterwards, if you feel like a drink, pop along to the bar.

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EUROPEAN NEWS

Eurocourt rules on labour movement

By A. H. Hermann

AUTHORITIES of member States must not restrict the free movement and employment opportunities of other EEC nationals for reasons of "public order" not related to the personal conduct of such foreign residents and, in particular, must not limit them in their trade union activities.

This was decided by the European Court in Luxembourg when giving judgment in the case of *M. Roland Rutli*, who retained Italian nationality after his father, though he himself was born in France where he lives and is married to a French woman with three children.

French authorities who did not like his participation in the events of 1968 first expelled him from France but later allowed him to stay on condition that he resides in a specified district in central France.

The judgment, which deals with the same area of EEC law as in the complaint of the Dutch Scientist, *Mrs Van Duyn*, against the Home Office, goes much further in defining the principles of human rights or natural justice which are applicable to EEC rules on free movement of workers and possibly also in other situations.

The Court said that when restricting the free movement of the national of another member State, because his personal conduct is in conflict with public interest, the authorities must observe certain rules of fairness.

In particular, the person concerned must be told immediately the authority's reasons and must be given an opportunity of review.

Turning more specifically to the restrictions imposed on *M. Rutli*, the Court held that it was contrary to the EEC Treaty to impose on nationals of other EEC countries restrictions which could not be imposed on own nationals—in other words *M. Rutli's* residence permit must not be limited to a specified part of France if French nationals cannot be legally subjected to similar limitations.

The European Court has largely followed the opinion submitted in this case by its First Advocate-General, *Henri Mayras*, who held that Article 48 of the Treaty must be interpreted as conferring on EEC nationals a fundamental right of free movement which can be restricted only for grave reasons of personal conduct.

Talks on successor to Franco continue

BY ROGER MATTHEWS

ALTHOUGH General Francisco Franco, once again surprised even his doctors by pulling back from the edge of death in the early hours of this morning, preparations for the succession of Prince Juan Carlos as Spain's Head of State are continuing rapidly.

The Prince has been seeking a number of former and present politicians for talks at the Zarzuela Palace outside Madrid and it is understood that he is slowly reducing the list of possible candidates for his first Prime Minister.

One of the most interesting candidates made was to Senator *Fernando Maria Castiella*, Foreign Minister until 1969 and a man who cut himself off from General Franco after his dismissal. He is best remembered in Britain as the man who instigated the hard-line policy against Gibraltar.

Senator Castiella also achieved a reputation for independent thinking and stood out against the Cabinet line on more than one occasion. This eventually led to a virtual break in relations with Prime Minister *Carlos Arias* Blanco who was assassinated by Basque separatists at the end of 1973.

There now seems a possibility that Senator Castiella could be in the Prince's first Cabinet and there are even suggestions that he could be a compromise choice for Prime Minister.

However, a strong rumour for that role is increasingly being spread by *Jose Maria de Arellano*, a close friend of Senator Castiella, who has a similar Basque and diplomatic background. Senator Arellano is understood to have been advising the Prince during the past few days on the attitude of Left-

MADRID, Oct. 29.

wing parties, with whom he has good contacts.

The Government met under Prime Minister *Carlos Arias* late this morning following their attendance at the annual ceremony to mark the foundation in 1822 of the Falange Party.

If, as seems likely, General Franco is either unwilling or incapable of signing away his powers to the Prince, the only alternative is to declare the Head of State incapacitated.

But as this is a complex constitutional procedure that would inevitably cause bad feeling among members of the régime, that too is almost certainly ruled out.

Reliable sources say that Senator *Arias* has already told the Prince that he is ready to step down from the Premiership, although the chances are that he will remain for some weeks.

Giscard plea for unity

BY RUPERT CORNWELL

PARIS, Oct.

PRESIDENT *Giscard d'Estaing* made another attempt to pour oil on the troubled waters of French politics the second time in a few weeks he urged his Ministers to support a "set aside a polemicking" and concentrate the matter on hand of reform.

These lofty words, on with the statement that the Parliamentary elections will be brought forward from were clearly designed to the best out of the seat permanent election can excitement which has griped large number of the country politicians.

The signing has not just the usual crossover between *Giscard* and his right-wing supporters, but also a surprising number of the left-wing politicians, including *M. M. Pompidou*, but also a surprising number of the left-wing politicians.

On the left, of course, it has been the state of affairs exactly a year. The rumour still being made by the Communists, anxious for the Socialist advance at their polls, revealed by the *Giscard* move.

The signs now are the dispute is spreading to the parties' respective client to the detriment of the *Giscard* movement's effective.

However, in his remarks this morning, *Giscard* did not mention the *Giscard* move in the quagmire that made on 1 own majority for a large between the *Giscard* and *France* Ministers, *France* and the President's own *France* but also on *France* and *France* personal basis.

Much of the theme is generated over the *Giscard* Cabinet reshuffle, which *Giscard* insists will take place next year, possibly in *France* already there is a jockeying between the *Giscard* and *France* and *France* positions.

But cohesion is his man all the more important for President is that the reform has in mind now include controversial capital gains and other proposals that will go down too well with his own supporters.

EEC Ministers concerned over Spain, Middle East

BY REGINALD DALE, COMMON MARKET CORRESPONDENT

ROME, Oct. 29

SPAIN and the Middle East are expected to dominate the session of foreign policy consultations to be held here tomorrow by the Nine EEC Foreign Ministers. At the same time, the Ministers are to start preparing the ground for the next EEC summit meeting, due to take place here on December 1 and 2.

On the Middle East, the Ministers will be considering whether to change the joint stance they took two years ago so as to give greater emphasis to the rights of the Palestinians. France, supported by Italy, wants the Community now to recognise the right of the Palestinians to their own state.

The prospect of such a move has alarmed the Israeli government, which has protested vigorously in Community capitals in recent weeks. The Netherlands and Denmark are still holding out against any change in the Nine's position, as enshrined in their joint declaration of November, 1973, while Britain, Germany and the other countries are prepared to move some way, but not as far as the French.

If they are to change their position, the Nine could either alter their 1973 declaration, or perhaps more simply, give new instructions to their ambassadors in New York for the forthcoming

Portuguese air force accused

By Jane Burger

LISBON, Oct. 30.

WHILE COMMUNISTS and the Far Left mobilised more rank and file soldiers through their "soldiers united will win" organisation in demonstrations in central and northern garrison towns to-night, the Communist-dominated morning newspapers to-day attacked the air force and accused it of preparing a Rightist coup along the lines of the failed *Spinoist* March 11 affair.

The attack, which was also published in some Communist and Far Left-dominated afternoon papers, came from a hitherto unknown organisation calling itself the "Air Force Commission for Revolutionary Vigilance".

The Commission has not so far identified itself. But its aim, as it makes clear in its communiqué, is to organise a series of plenary air force unit meetings around the country, presumably in an attempt to penetrate the one branch of Portugal's armed forces hitherto virtually untouched by rank and file politics.

The Commission's "evidence" for the "air force coup" consists of detailed reports of air force training and exercises in bases around Portugal.

Soames agrees to rest for two months

SIR Christopher Soames, the Common Market Commissioner for Agriculture, has agreed to take a two-month break from his duties.

Anxious to speed up a suggestion that illness might cast a shadow over his *Soames* (or British) political career, Sir Christopher spelled out that the trouble was two small operations in a leg vein which had bothered him during his recent visit in Latin America.

He will complete this week's schedule of work and give out of commission until the New Year.

THE LUGANO BANK HEARINGS

Jail terms sought 'to warn other dealers'

BY NORRIS WILLATT

LUGANO, Oct.

PENALTIES of two years imprisonment and ten months suspended sentence were sought respectively for the Foreign Exchange dealer and manager of the Lugano branch of *Lloyds Bank International* by the Public Prosecutor when their trial continued in the criminal court in Lugano today. The accused are *Sig. Marc Colombo*, aged 29, the dealer and *Sig. Egidio Mombelli*, 41, the manager.

The Public Prosecutor *Paolo Bernasconi* said that the sentences were necessary to warn any other bank officials who might be inclined to follow the two's example. The prosecution arose as the result of a deficit of some *Sw.Frs.222m.* (£34m.) from foreign exchange dealings at the branch when *Lloyds International* head office intervened in August 1974 to relieve *Sig. Colombo* of his duties.

Subsequently both he and *Sig. Mombelli* were dismissed and were brought to trial by the local authorities charged with disloyal administration and violation of Swiss banking law.

Sig. Bernasconi claimed that *Sig. Colombo* had sustained the loss because of his mentality and his attitude as a gambler. The charge against him is not that he lost the money but that he gambled in violation of the rules about speculation which were designed to avoid excessive risk. "This boy of 29," he said, "decided to substitute himself for the bank, deciding how to run his department. This was typical of his disloyal attitude."

Specifying the offences, the Prosecutor alleged that *Sig. Colombo* had kept quiet about losses he had sustained instead of revealing them to his superiors; had issued false vouchers in connection with his transactions; had dealt with banks with which he was not authorised to deal; had exceeded the maximum of *Sw.Frs.5m.* a day as the limit for the balance between all operations; and had exceeded in some cases a period of six months imposed for forward transactions.

Sig. Colombo had elected to live in this disloyal fashion to the point that he could not stop himself. He was not stopped finally by his own will but only because one of the corresponding banks had "whispered to *Lloyds Head Office* in London. The Prosecutor demanded the greatest measure of punishment because "*Colombo* still doesn't realise that he was mistaken and how he was mistaken."

Earlier in the hearing, the foreign exchange dealer had argued that if he had been left in charge of foreign exchange operations in Lugano and had kept the open position he held when removed from responsibility by February 28, 1973, he would have shown instead a loss of *Sw.Frs.222m.* a profit of *Sw.Frs.51m.* "We dealers are not really gamblers who play on the red and black numbers," he argued. "We read newspapers like the *Financial Times* and study economic reports and take note of their forecasts. They make the forecasts, not us. We all tend to go

in the same direction and it only takes a little unforeseen something to upset the market." In his summing up of the case against *Sig. Mombelli*, the Public Prosecutor argued that his disloyal administration was demonstrated both by omission and action. His omissions were in failure to exercise the necessary supervision over the foreign exchange department and his action aided the speculations of *Sig. Colombo*.

With the advent of the era of floating exchange rates in the spring of 1973, foreign exchange dealers were exposed to great temptations. The manager of a bank branch—even a very little branch like that in Lugano—ought to have taken measures in order to enforce limits and minimise risks. In addition *Sig. Mombelli* had received repeated warnings from his superiors in Zurich and London—four specific occasions were mentioned—to exercise such supervision.

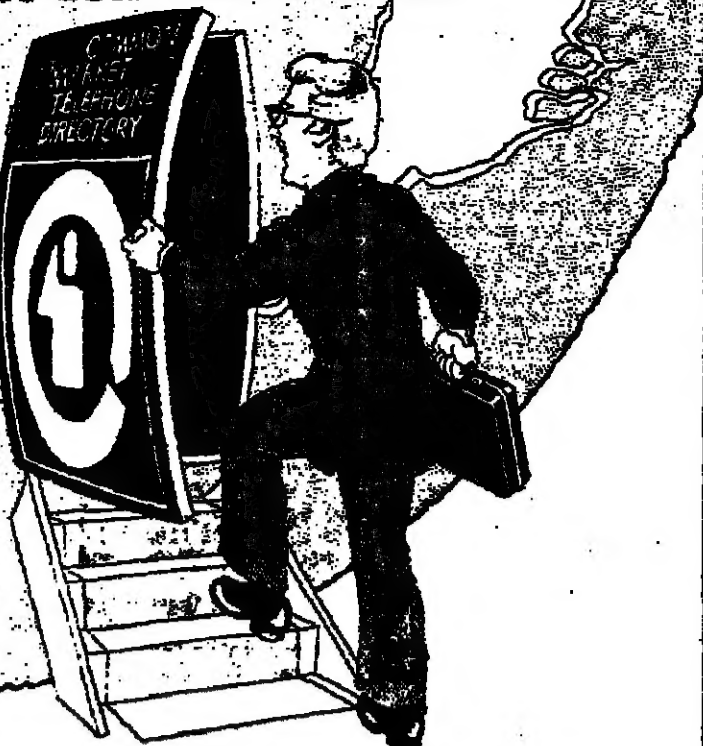
The prosecutor said that if the necessary supervision had been

imposed, *Sig. Mombelli* should have known about *Colombo's* speculation from beginning and taken steps to correct the situation at once.

He saw the involvement came to the branch in connection with the loans which *Colombo* had contracted other banks to try to restore position—even if *Sig. Colombo* did the transactions himself.

In the closing session of the trial, *Sig. Mombelli's* lawyer *Gabriele Bertocchi* pleaded the benefit that he belongs to the Bretton Woods era of foreign exchange business when, as he put it, operating a foreign exchange dealer could have done it. "I can't weep over the loss of *Sw.Frs.222m.*" he pleaded. "I can't weep over the loss of millions and billions of francs which have been made in being on an international scale claim that nobody has lost a thing in this case, only that shareholders of *Lloyds* have gained a little less."

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Strauss bids to upstage Kohl

JONATHAN CARR

BONN, Oct. 29.

THIN the space of a few 130,000 ethnic Germans to leave Poland for West Germany over the next four years.

Herr Strauss is firmly against the agreement, claiming it involves paying money for people and that Bonn is laying itself open to blackmail in future since there are many more than 130,000 ethnic Germans who wish to leave Poland for the West.

All this, and more, he set out in a letter last week to every CDU and CSU parliamentarian, advising them strongly not to vote for the agreement.

Dr. Kohl was evidently not informed of Herr Strauss' initiative in advance. Only yesterday did he produce a statement saying that he too "could not recommend the Opposition to go along with the accord."

Tactically, Herr Strauss seemed to have seized the initiative. In a similar development earlier this month, the two-party leaders were involved in a dispute over comments by the CDU general secretary which Herr Strauss felt moved the union parties too far to the left of the political spectrum.

'an delaying delivery of Phantoms, say Greeks

OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

ATHENS, Oct. 29.

is holding up delivery of American-built F-4 Phantom fighter planes which Greece used from the U.S. well-ed sources said here.

planes were given on lease and were to be delivered in October after the new ones. But the Iranian demand is now withholding which will release the to Greece, the sources

matter is a delicate one. has been seeking to relations with Iran, with hopes to conclude inter-agreements for the purchase of oil on favourable terms.

Foreign Minister Jos Bissios recently Tehran in this context. other hand, Washington is anxious to see Turkey's bases on its soil. laxing its arms embargo, de deliveries of similar to Turkey. The decision has irked Greek military

ICELAND PRAISES WEST GERMAN 'UNDERSTANDING'

REYKJAVIK, Oct. 29.

ICELAND said today that West Germany was showing more understanding than Britain in negotiations on fishing restrictions off the Icelandic coast.

In two days of talks here Iceland and West Germany failed to reach an agreement, but both sides were optimistic that they could settle their fisheries dispute. Iceland this month extended its fishing limits from 50 to 200 nautical miles.

Feature article, Page 9

in for more access to F compensatory finance

DAVID EGLI

GENEVA, Oct. 29.

ERALISATION of the exceptional length and depth of satory financing facility the recession in the industrialised countries, additional grants or long-term IMF loans could be by, is proposed by the accord. Finally, it was D secretariat as a means suggested to the UNCTAD Committee on Invisibles and of payments difficulties Financing Related to Trade that the oil facility should be extended in 1976, with conditions on drawings relaxed.

The secretariat gave a warning that the current account deficit of oil-importing developing countries might rise to over \$35bn this year.

According to Mr. Coren, the overall effect of an increase in the price of official gold reserves would be to redistribute world reserves in favour of the industrialised world.

Belgian GM set to win ti-trust case

DAVID CURRY

BRUSSELS, Oct. 29.

AL Motors Continental, verdict, but it would be relatively unusual for them to depart from the Advocate-General's opinion which pulls together the evidence and recommends an outline of the final verdict.

General Motors Continental was found by the Commission to be abusing its dominant market position in Belgium for testing vehicles and issuing certificates that they conformed with manufacturer's specifications.

No vehicle can take the road in Belgium without such a certificate.

once given ten days on tariff

John Reeves

BRUSSELS, Oct. 29.

French government was given seven days by the Commission to lift its ant. illegal tariff on cheap wine imports or be put dock at the European Luxembourg for breach Treaty rules.

Decision to grant Paris a seven-day deadline has been content to pursue against the French tariff in early December. It is a convenient pace, apparent connivance of the government.

Immediate reaction was from French sources. French government was acted to depart from its justification.

practical effect of the sion's move is likely to intensify efforts to reach on the improved wine. The French have made that once they will be on this they will be to drop the tariff.

Greenlanders claim minerals

By Hilary Barnes

COPENHAGEN, Oct. 29.

THE GREENLAND Provincial Council declared unanimously yesterday that the Greenland underground belongs to the resident population of Greenland. Implying that it does not belong to the Danish state. The declaration, which is an assertion of the Greenlanders' right to decide over the mineral wealth in Greenland and off the Greenland coasts, is seen here as a victory for Greenland's leftwing politicians.

The declaration has no legal validity.

New Dutch gas find

By Michael Van Os

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 29.

A NEW appraisal gas well drilled in Dutch territorial waters off the island of Ameland has established that the onshore Ameland Field stretches into the sea and now involved a "major commercial" field.

THE GREEK PLAN FOR A BALKANS CONFERENCE

A hopeful beginning to a long pull

BY PAUL LENDVAI, VIENNA CORRESPONDENT

THE CYPRUS conflict should not obscure the fact that during the past few weeks some tangible progress has been made towards a Balkan understanding. A personal letter from the Greek Premier, Mr. Constantine Karamanlis, sent to the Heads of Governments of the other Balkan states on August 20 gave the impetus towards closer co-operation. He suggested a Balkan Conference of the Deputy Ministers of Economic Planning to explore the possibilities for regional economic co-operation, and co-operation in matters of transport, energy and culture.

President Tito of Yugoslavia, on September 22, was the first leader to welcome this seemingly modest initiative for a limited but real co-operation in this volatile region. Only a few days later the Bulgarian party leader and Head of State, Mr. Todor Zhivkov, followed suit. Finally, the Romanian Premier, early this month, carried front-page reports about an exchange of letters between Mr. Karamanlis and President Nicolae Ceausescu which publicly confirmed the acceptance of the Greek proposal by the Romanian leader. The Prime Minister of maverick Albania, Mr. Mehmet Shehu, is reported to have rejected the invitation, while Turkey has not yet given a definite answer.

It would be an ironic footnote to the Cyprus conflict if the same crisis which brought two NATO allies to the brink of war were

to give a much-needed push to the movement for regional co-operation. But then the Balkans, even after the Second World War, have always been more suitable ground for political manoeuvre than, for example, Central Europe, where rigid patterns of cold war partition still prevail. Profound changes beginning with the Yugoslav defiance of Soviet domination in 1948 have gradually eroded the southern flanks of the two military blocs, recreated the erstwhile cluster of separate national states, but have also raised the spectre of old rivalries and even of territorial feuds.

Nothing could better illustrate the significance of the return to the traditional diversity of the national states than the fact that relations between a Socialist and a capitalist state can be incomparably better than those between countries which claim to have the same social system or to belong to the same bloc.

Relations between Greece and Turkey are much worse than those of either country with the neighbouring Communist states. Latent tensions and constant suspicions between Yugoslavia and Bulgaria—fellow Slavs and fellow Communists—are in striking contrast to the demonstrative friendship displayed by Belgrade and Sofia towards Greece or Turkey.

Post-war divisions have been replaced by complex relationships permanently in flux. Who remembers today, for example, that in August, 1954, Yugoslavia, with its Greek and Yugoslav Balkan customs union was drafted but never fully realised due to the friction with Bulgaria. The four members of the Balkan Pact—Romania, Yugoslavia, Turkey and Greece—established a permanent council and an economic advisory council; by 1956 they had set up a marine commission, signed an aviation agreement and begun to move

that in August, 1954, Yugoslavia, with its Greek and Yugoslav Balkan customs union was drafted but never fully realised due to the friction with Bulgaria. The four members of the Balkan Pact—Romania, Yugoslavia, Turkey and Greece—established a permanent council and an economic advisory council; by 1956 they had set up a marine commission, signed an aviation agreement and begun to move

It is probably also forgotten that the Romanian Premier in 1957 publicly suggested a Balkan summit meeting. The initiative led to nothing. Yugoslavia, Romania's closest ally, has all along opted for bilateral rather than multilateral political co-operation. The thorny Macedonian issue has remained a bone of contention between Yugoslavia and Bulgaria.

Bulgaria has the well-deserved reputation of being the most loyal ally of the Soviet Union. When Mr. Zhivkov, at the last party congress in the spring of 1971, omitted from his speech on delivery a passage about multilateral co-operation in the Balkans it was a significant indication that the Kremlin opposed regional projects which could be dominated by the Bucharest-Belgrade Axis. Despite the normalisation of its relations

change of attitude in Belgrade towards a central European union of postal, telegraphic and telephone systems.

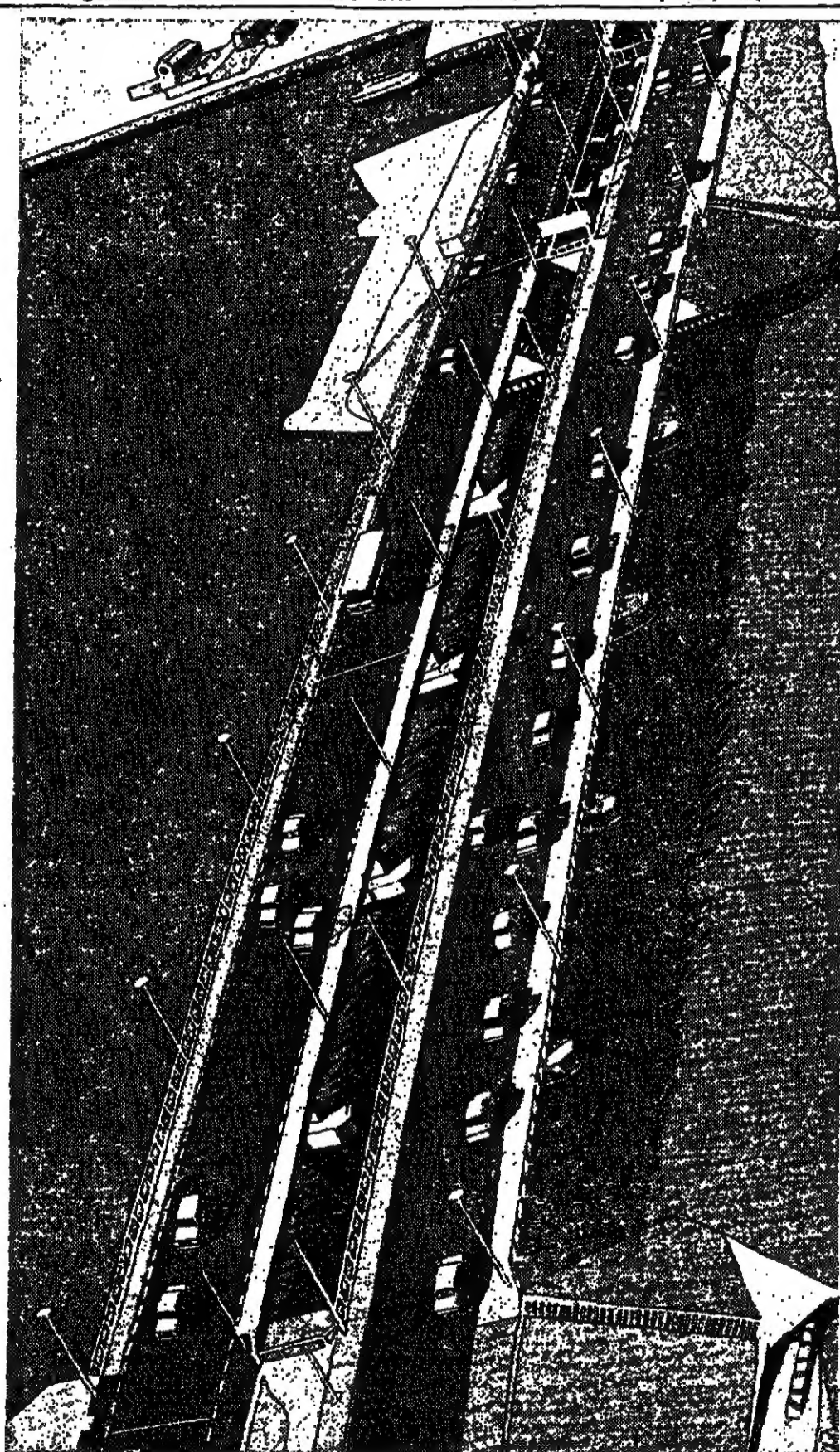
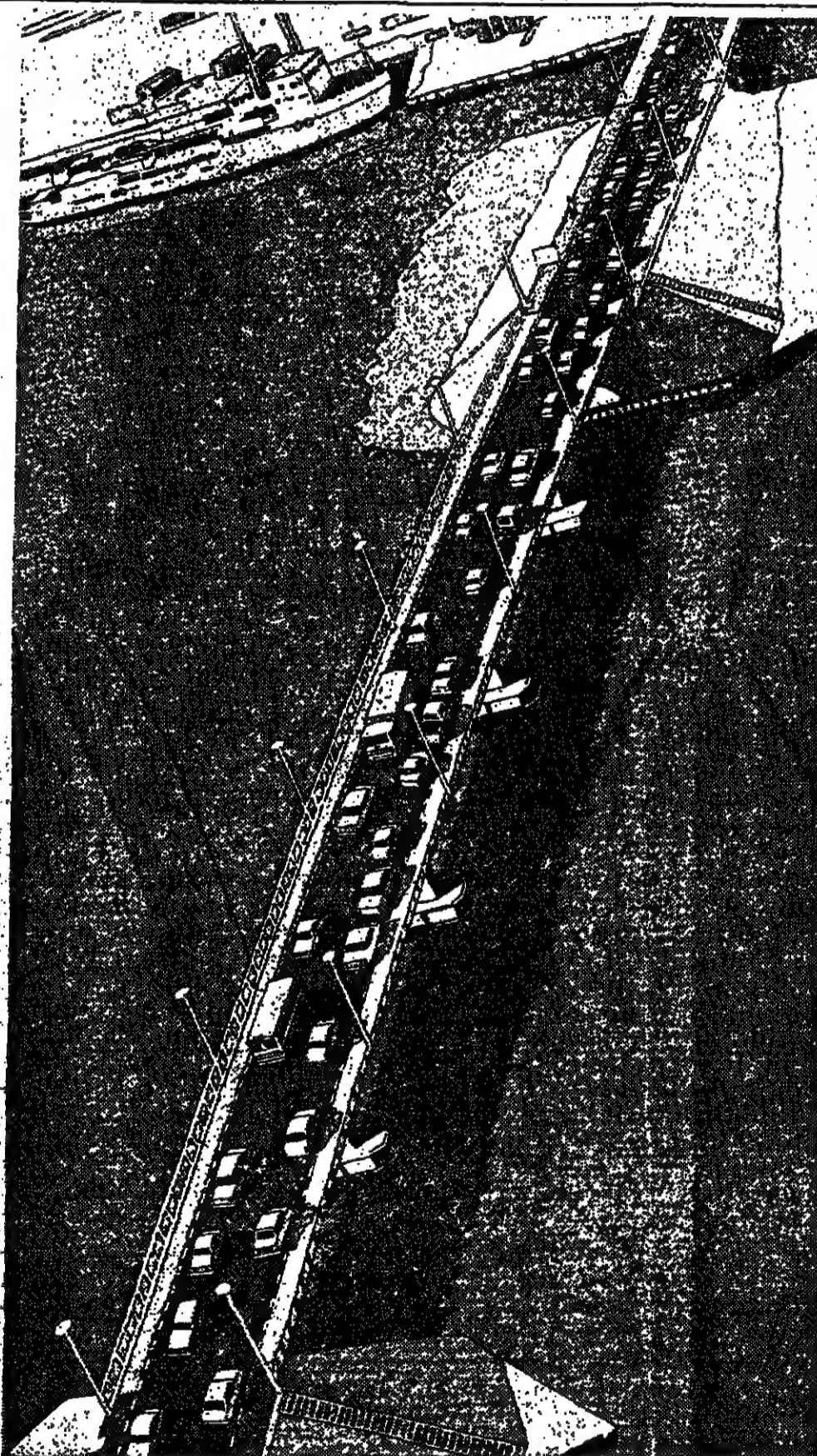
In one way or another, Turkey, though no longer really a Balkan country, has always been at least marginally involved in the affairs of the region. Despite recent comings and goings between Ankara and the Balkan capitals, and despite the meetings of Premier Demirel with the Romanian and Bulgarian leaders, the sympathies of the other Balkan states are clearly, though not publicly, on the Greek side in the Cyprus conflict. It is not the memory of centuries of Turkish rule over the Balkans but rather the aversion against the use of force by a superior power which shapes Balkan attitudes.

Since time immemorial the

Balkan nations have fought for the right not to be ruled by an outside great power. The Yugoslavs, Romanians and Albanians are concerned lest the Cyprus conflict and the reopening of old scores between Greece and Turkey lead to a return of Soviet influence, as it were, through the back door. Though boycotting Balkanwide arrangements, the Albanian leader, Mr. Enver Hoxha, has repeatedly stressed that if necessary the Albanians would fight side by side with the Greeks and Yugoslavs to defend their independence.

It is not only shrewd tactics but also in the Balkan tradition that Premier Karamanlis, ever since his return to power, has assiduously cultivated the neighbours. His visits between the end of May and the beginning of July to Bucharest, Belgrade and Sofia were steps in the right direction. The interests of all the states of the wider Balkan region in bilateral and multilateral economic, transport and energy projects is bound to make itself felt. Gone are the times of Balkan pacts and federations. But a meaningful dialogue about concrete commercial and financial understandings, joint transport, communications and infrastructure ventures and, last but not least, the common stake in tourism, is long overdue. The Greek idea of a conference may turn out to be a promising new beginning. But it must be said that in the past three decades all unifying impulses have failed at a very early stage.

The Balkans of to-day still have a long way to go before regional co-operation remotely resembles the stage reached even in distinctly non-military fields 40 years ago



'Nafes Alshai' they said—and we did.

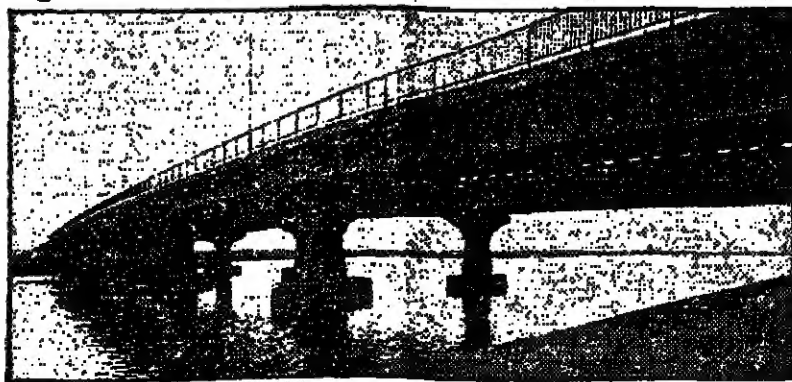
Or translated: 'the same again'. And Wimpey built it.

Now open to traffic—the Al Maktoum bridge in Dubai. That is—the Al Maktoum second bridge. Completed by Wimpey in April 1975 to cope with the unforeseeable traffic build up of this developing area.

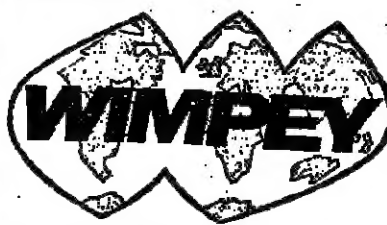
The towns of Dubai and Deira were already linked by a modern bridge. What was needed was, simply, another one. Alongside and identical. Allowing one-way flow on each bridge. And so Dubai said 'Nafes Alshai'—'the thing itself. The equivalent of 'same again'.

Now Wimpey are busy

constructing another bridge in Dubai, the Al Garhoud bridge, as well as the new Suq Wharf. Versatility is the trademark of Wimpey in all its activities. Whether building bridges, dams or factories, offices or houses, or runways for a huge international airport, we bring the same expertise to bear. So bring us your ideas. And we'll give you results.



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OVERSEAS NEWS

Heavier weapons in Beirut fights

BY IHSAN HIAZI

BEIRUT, Oct. 29

AS FIERCE gun battles continued here today, the rival factions have introduced heavier weapons into the fighting to improve their positions.

The announcer of the State-controlled Radio Lebanon said that in the exchanges last night highly destructive weapons were used, causing additional bloodshed and damage.

The capital and its suburbs had witnessed yet another "black night," he said. The speaker did not identify the latest weapons, but they included 105 mm recoilless cannons with a long range, according to informed sources.

The Right-wing Phalangist party, whose militia men are under pressure on the sea-front to have used these weapons to shell faraway Muslim and Palestinian positions in the city.

Nevertheless, the armed forces of the Government security forces were reported to have gone through the Leftist-Muslim positions to evacuate 200 foreigners and Lebanese nationals who had been stranded in the multi-storey Holiday Inn. The Leftist Muslims were said to have advanced to within several hundred yards of the building, a key focus of the struggle, which was still being held by the Christian Phalangists.

New political moves initiated by the Prime Minister, Mr. Rashid Karami, have not yet produced any effective result. The Prime Minister last night slept at his office at Government House while continuing to wait for the nine other members of the "security committee," set up by him yesterday, to show up.

This morning a few arrived at his office in Government House, but the two main Christian members, Mr. Camille Chamoun, the Interior Minister, and Mr. Pierre Gemayel, the Phalangist leader, were still absent. These two, as well as the Socialist leader Mr. Kamal Jumblatt, have expressed certain reservations about the new committee, and a deadlock has resulted. To-day some sections of the

Lebanese Press pointed out that if the impasse continued Mr. Karami may shortly have no other alternative but to resign. But some of his own supporters might—if the deadlock drags on—insist on the resignation of the President, Suleiman Franjeh.

Yet another ceasefire was agreed last night by the Higher Lebanese-Palestinian Co-ordinating Committee. It was supposed to have come into force at 12.30 this morning, but was ignored by the fighters who continued their bitter and bloody war of attrition.

The Phalangists appear to be trying to relieve the pressure on their men around the sea-front by a rocket which fell in the Palestinian quarter of Sabra last night killed 20 people and injured 37. A retaliatory barrage from leftist militiamen shelled the Phalangist-controlled area of Ashrafiah.

All in all some 70 people were reported dead after the overnight exchanges. An announcement by the Ministry of Health said that there were no more vacancies in government hospitals for new patients, and appealed for private hospitals and clinics to admit the wounded and charge the ministry later.

In certain districts of Beirut there developed such a shortage of plasma that armed men raided the government's blood-bank and got away with several pints.

Stepping up the pressure, some 300 leftists late last night mounted an offensive from the southern suburb of Shiyah against the adjacent Christian-dominated area of Ain-el-Rummaneh. A pitched battle developed in which many were understood to have been killed or wounded.

A rocket landed in the still calm area of Ras Beirut around breakfast time, but there was no immediate sign that generalised fighting was spreading there. Many people whose business means they cannot leave Beirut, such as journalists and diplomats, have taken refuge in Ras Beirut, the north-western head-land of the city.

CULTURE SHOCK IN NEPAL

The Queen's tough Gurkhas

BY KEVIN RAFFERTY, RECENTLY IN KATMANDU

ALL THIS week hundreds of men living thousands of miles away and with no ties whatever to Britain—not of kinship, nor race, nor religion, nor colour, nor creed, nor even of slender Commonwealth affection—will trek for days through tough mountainous country to try to pledge themselves to the service of the Great White British Queen. It is once again the recruiting season for those stalwart mercenaries of the British army, the Gurkhas, once called "the blood-thirstiest, friendliest soldiers in the world."

Whatever pressures impel them to seek enlistment, they are strong enough to ensure that there is no shortage of potential recruits. Last year, for example, when the message went up to the hills that there would be 300 or 400 vacancies, 15,000 men turned up at the recruiting stations—or that was the rough count before the counters had to stop counting and begin selecting.

Once you are in Nepal those pressures are obvious enough. Earlier this month I stood at Katmandu airport with shabbily dressed customs officers as the Royal Air Force Britannia carrying Gurkhas home from Hong Kong for leave roared in. All the men disembarking were wearing smartly cut suits and clutching at children and modern gadgets. One typical family included a four-year-old girl dressed in an imitation tigerskin coat and tugging along a huge white doll as big as herself; her big brother

was not outdone, with his loud checked suit and armoured of Hongkong plastic weapons, enough at least to sink a plastic battleship.

The contrast was even greater when the luggage was offloaded. There were bundles of colourful quilts, a glaring change from the ubiquitous dowdy local bedrolls, hanging around from a previous flight; there was practically a shopload of electronic equipment, from transistor radios to the latest in hi-fi. All this was pouring into a country with a per capita income of around \$100 a year. People in Nepal do not go hungry; the country can even spare rice for India, but there is a make-do and mend atmosphere of homely shabbiness about the place.

The transition for these men and their families began the next day. They spent the night in a transit camp in Katmandu, a splendidly kept mansion with marble floored dormitories. From there they were taken by air to Dharan or Paklihawa, the east and west recruiting bases, and from there began the long trek to their home villages. In some cases, so the Gurkhas told me, it could take as much as two or three days or more, the last lap done on foot or with the assistance of a mule or donkey. Even jeeps or Land Rovers are not nimble enough to clamber over the obstacles of the Himalayan hills.

Up there in the rare mountain air it is even clearer why the British Army is popular. Some

of the Gurkhas spoke of a family tradition of service to the British Queen or King, and most of those serving to-day can trace a relative or someone from the same village who has drawn his livelihood from fighting for the British. But the most pressing

defence force of Hong Kong and millions of dollars of foreign currency and next to tourism are the largest foreign exchange earners for Nepal.

The greatest difficulties are faced by the Gurkhas themselves. They have to trek down from the hills with no certainty of

being recruited. This year for the first time the British Army is trying to preselect and is sending recruitment officers up to the hills to find likely lads in the hope that it will discourage the flow of thousands to the recruiting depots and lessen the mass disappointment when only a few are chosen. This year the quota is 250 men.

Edward VII Own Gurkhas will probably be dropped. Some military specialists believe that it is a bad thing for Britain to have mercenaries in the army, and that the tradition of recruitment from Nepal should come to an end. There are two answers to that cost and manpower. The Gurkhas have proved excellent sturdy infantrymen, yet they cost much less than British soldiers. Gurkhas in Hongkong for example cost the British taxpayer two-thirds of what British soldiers would cost. It might also be foolish to throw away a good source of soldiers when the army is having such difficulty recruiting Britons.

The Royal Nepal Government is in two minds about whether it should allow its men to be hired to fight for other countries. About \$5,000 to \$6,000 Gurkhas, though the actual figure is an Indian defence secret, are in the Indian army. The Gurkhas bring in

being recruited. This year for the first time the British Army is trying to preselect and is sending recruitment officers up to the hills to find likely lads in the hope that it will discourage the flow of thousands to the recruiting depots and lessen the mass disappointment when only a few are chosen. This year the quota is 250 men.

Once chosen he faces the greatest and the hardest transition. All his life the Gurkhas has been used to the exacting but simple life in the hills. If he wants to eat he eats with his fingers; he dresses in what he pleases; if he wants to relieve himself he wanders deeper into the hills. After being chosen he has only two nights in the Katmandu transit camp before flying off thousands of miles to Hong Kong and to barracksroom civilisation, including plates, knives and forks, a uniform—not to speak of military training proper.

When his service is over the Gurkha has to go back to a tradi-

tional and essentially subsistent level society. The money he has been able to earn may buy him extra land, the fancied electronic gadget he does not significantly alter his problems of survival in a kingdom where the monarch is the real monarch. The ships may rest more heavily on his children, who may have seen the traditional

Take the case of Henry. He ran away from Dharan in 1943 to join up. "So I felt I was mature enough I felt I had to join," he said. Next spring, after 33 years the Gurkhas he will retire as a Queen's Gurkha officer the rank of major, but a job in charge at Kat in which he will be succeeded by an English Lieutenant. He is a member of the Excellent Order of the British Empire. None of this will mean much in his life retirement. He has three and a daughter. The elder is being educated in Hong Kong where he will do his "A" examinations and is keen on medicine. The teen-ager wants to go to Britain to nursing. Major Subba is the most friendly and hospitable I have met. He is too old a man to fit in in the and in any case originally from Darjeeling in India. 33 years' loyal service he is right to a British passport will have a pension of a £19 a month.

Sadat calls for consultations

NEW YORK, Oct. 29

EGYPTIAN President Anwar Sadat today told the United Nations that unless the Middle East crisis was resolved peacefully, Egypt would have no alternative but to liberate its occupied territory by force.

In his first address to the world body, the Egyptian leader also called for immediate consultations to reconvene the

President Ford in Washington (tossed Israel instead of Egypt in a slip of the tongue last night at a dinner hosted by Egyptian President Anwar Sadat.

At the end of the dinner in his honour, Mr. Ford proposed a toast to "the great people and Government of Israel. Excuse me," he quickly amended himself, "of Egypt."

Geneva Middle East peace conference in the near future.

The President's speech was seen by observers as a strong reply to criticism that he had sold out the Arab cause in the recent Sinai disengagement agreement.

President Sadat, on the third day of his state visit to the U.S., told the UN General Assembly that the Geneva conference should meet without interruption to "deal with all aspects of the (Middle East) problem to achieve a just and permanent peace."

The Egyptian leader also asked the UN General Assembly to pass a resolution during its current session to give the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) representation at the Geneva peace conference on equal footing with other bodies represented there. He added that the Egyptian delegation at

the UN will table a resolution to that effect.

Turning to the question of the parts of the Sinai desert still occupied by Israel, he said that unless a Middle East peace was achieved "we would have no alternative but to resort to the holy duty of liberating our territory and restoring our legitimate rights by other means provided in your charter, including article 51." Article 51 of the UN charter states the inherent right of member states to the armed defence of their territory against attack.

He added, "Now that a disengagement agreement has been achieved on both the Egyptian and Syrian fronts, and a second disengagement on the Egyptian front, and hopes are pinned on a second agreement on the Syrian front, I believe that it is time now to reconvene the Geneva peace conference in the presence of all parties concerned. Reuter L. Daniel reports: President Sadat's recent statement on the subject of Zionism and Jewry only underline the enormous divergence of attitudes existing between Israel and the Arab world. Israeli Mr. Yitzhak Rabin, Premier, stated to the afternoon. Reacting to the Egyptian leader's pronouncement in Washington Mr. Rabin said that it confirmed his own view of the impossibility to pass in one step from war to peace in the Middle East.

President Sadat has expressed the depths of anti-Jewish feeling prevailing both among the leaders and the peoples of the Arab world. This is a reality which we have to take into account and which we took into account also during the negotiations for the latest interim settlement," Mr. Rabin added.

Israel's inflation to continue high

BY L. DANIEL

TEL AVIV, Oct. 29

WHILE THE rate of inflation is beginning to slow down in most western countries, finance ministry economists expect it to continue in Israel at the rate of at least 25 per cent. in 1976 (the same as this year).

This is despite the fact that all forecasts envisage an increase in the number of unemployed from 39,000 to 67,000—or from 3.4 per cent. this year to 5.8 per cent. in 1976. There has also been a very small net addition to the labour force as a result of a sharp drop in immigration and an increase in emigration.

The deficit in the balance of payments is seen as rising from \$3.7bn. to \$4bn. this year. The country's external debt is expected to rise still further—from \$1.7bn. to \$9.2bn. even if Congress approves Israel's application for loans and grants for defence purchases, one-third of

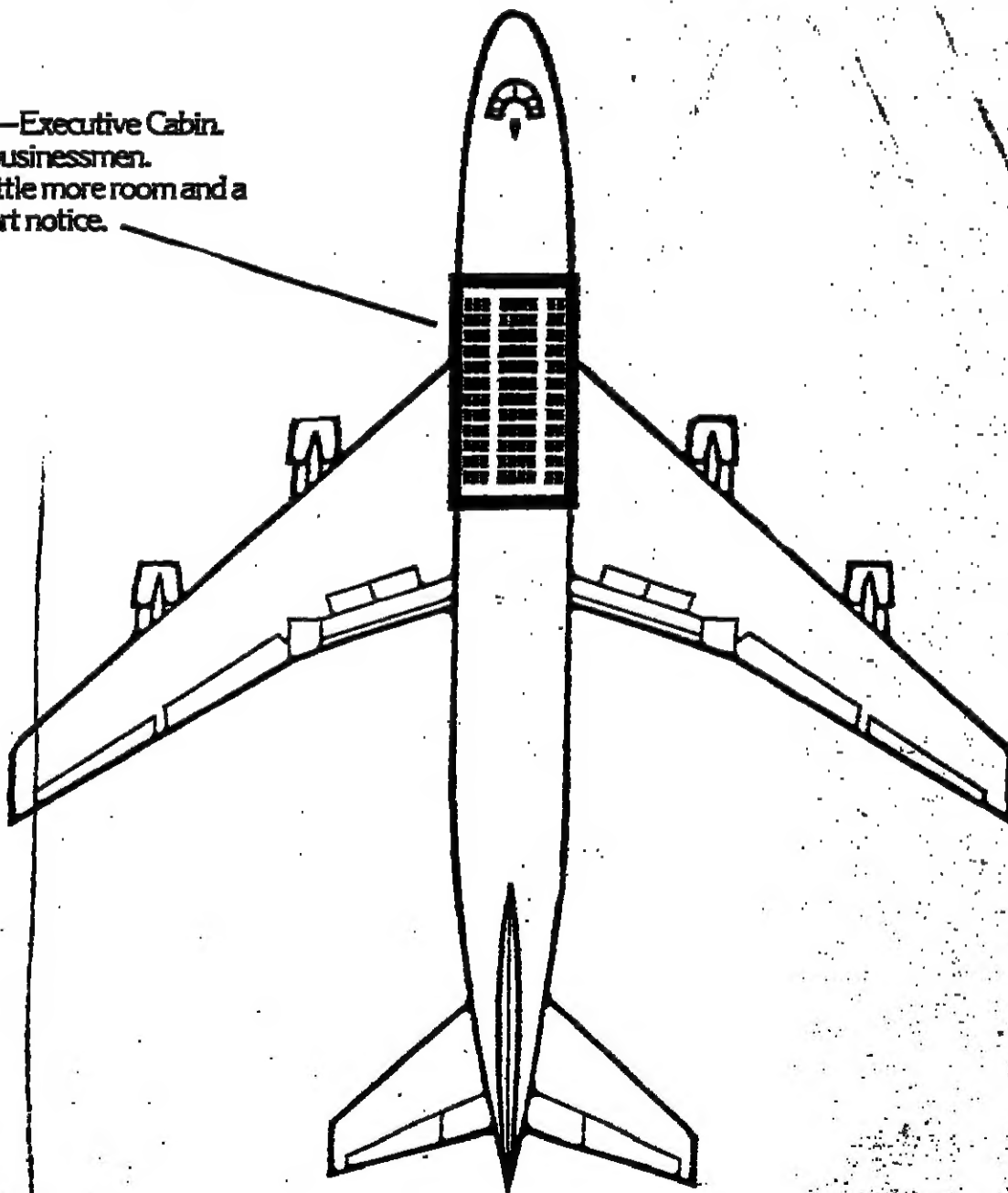
defence imports will have to be covered from other sources. While exports of goods and services are expected to grow by \$565m. to \$4.5bn., imports are seen as rising by \$845m. from direct defence imports (not including imported inputs for local production) are projected as rising by \$500m. to \$2bn. and indirect defence imports, by \$100m. to \$800m.

Economists stress that all these figures are tentative. If the government cuts back drastically on public expenditure this may in turn lead to a sharper reduction in the number of those employed in services and commerce.

If it does not, and continues on its path of deficit financing, the rate of inflation will continue high and the moment of truth—a real reduction in the standard of living and a streamlining of the economy—would have to be postponed.

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The catch in deep water fishing off Iceland

BRITAIN AND Iceland are in the process of negotiating a fisheries agreement to regulate the two-year accord which expired on November 13. The 1973 agreement set a West German team to fish this quantity expired on November 13, when British negotiations in Reykjavik on fishing rights for man vessels within Icelandic waters. If another cod war is to be avoided, both negotiations are making any agreement conditional on the lifting of the West man veto on tariff reductions for Icelandic fish imported EEC countries.

Unilaterally

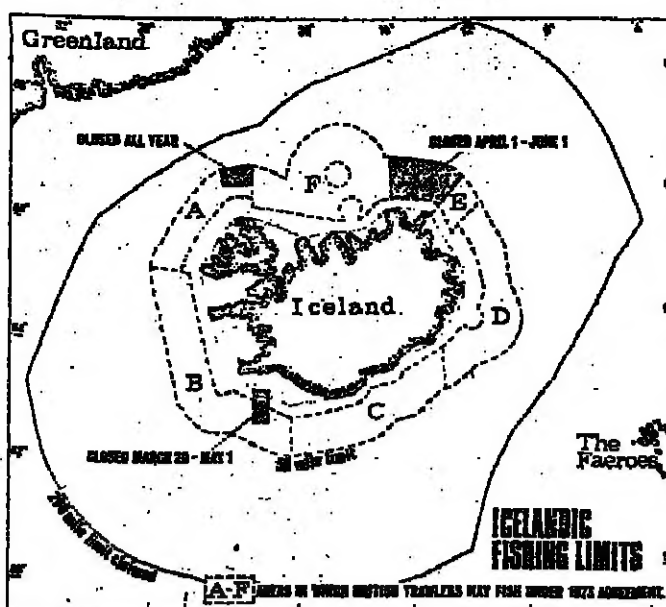
On October 15, Iceland unilaterally extended its fishing limit to 200 miles, anticipating a 200-mile economic zone for states to which the Law of the Sea is gradually applying. No other country recognised Iceland's extension, although the U.S., Canada and Norway have at least been considering similar extensions. It is legally significant, and a 200-mile extension is a major factor in the London talks since, under the 1973 'd', British trawlers take the bulk of their catch inside the 50-mile limit which Iceland extended unilaterally in September 1972, thus sparking off the war.

Unilaterally, the talks are

about tons of fish, since the limits and regulations are means of controlling the amount of fish caught by each country's vessels. In the 1973 agreement, the British quota was fixed at 130,000 tons a year. Until earlier this month the Icelandic position was that Britain's right to fish this quantity expired on November 13, when British trawlers would have to leave the 50-mile area, and that talks could deal only with rights between the 50-mile and 200-mile limits. The British position was that the 1973 agreement was only temporary and that its expiry would mean a return to the previous status quo, with British vessels able to fish freely right up to Iceland's 12-mile territorial limit.

Earlier this month the Icelandic Government significantly modified its stand, when Foreign Minister Mr. Einar Agustsson indicated his readiness to discuss a continuation of British fishing within the 50-mile limit but with a "substantial reduction" of the 130,000-ton quota. The two sides agree that British trawlers fished some 140,000 tons in Icelandic waters in 1974 and that their catch will probably slightly exceed the quota again this year.

The table shows the quantities of the four main demersal species (those that feed at the bottom of the sea) taken in the Icelandic fishing area (which is bigger than the 50-mile limit) in the 1971 to 1974 period by



Icelandic, British and West German fishermen. These include cod and haddock, which are the most important fish for the British trawlers and which are caught predominantly within the 50-mile limit. The total catch of the four species declined from 885,000 tons in 1971 to 563,000 tons in 1974, with the British share dropping from just over 197,000 tons to less than 132,000 tons.

Just before the talks, Mr. Matthias Bjarnason, the Icelandic Fisheries Minister, disclosed the latest report from the Marine Research Institute (MRI) which proposed that the total catch, and the Icelanders claim

that U.K. trawlers are damaging the stock by catching fish that are too small. The MRI claims that if cod fishing were maintained at its present level, it would be possible to catch some 340,000-360,000 tons a year for the next few years with the catch then declining precipitously.

This is the "conservation" argument in the Icelandic case. After the talks in London last week it was agreed that a team of British fisheries experts would travel to Reykjavik to examine the research work, on which the Icelanders are basing their stock estimates and forecasts. Mr. Bjarnason has promised that the British will be given the opportunity to evaluate fully the methods by which the MRI arrived at its conclusions.

The Icelanders then have what may be called their "moral" argument, based on their economy's total dependence on fishing. Fish products account for nearly 80 per cent. of their exports. They argue that it is immoral for Britain and West Germany (and Norway, for that matter) to subsidise their fishing fleets, enabling them to catch fish in Icelandic waters, while Iceland cannot subsidise the industry on which its economy rests. This argument is balanced on the British side by consideration for the interests of the distant water trawlers of Grimsby, Hull and Fleetwood. Logically—although it is not

Two ways

There are basically two ways of controlling the catch: restricting the area in which fishing can take place and limiting the number of vessels allowed to fish. In the 1973 agreement the inner limit for British trawlers inside boxes A and D was already pushed further out than the 12-mile territorial limit. The Icelanders will definitely want this line moved even farther out. Under the agreement, 139 British trawlers were licensed to fish within the 50-mile limit but this figure has been reduced by natural attrition, as boats deteriorate, to just over

WHO CATCHES WHAT

Catches of the four main demersal species in Icelandic waters

Year	Iceland	Britain	W. Germany	Total
COD				
1971	250,300	161,800	27,000	439,100
1972	225,400	147,100	11,700	384,200
1973	234,900	122,300	6,800	364,000
1974	238,300	115,400	5,600	359,300
HADDOCK				
1971	32,400	8,500	2,000	42,900
1972	29,300	8,500	700	38,500
1973	34,400	7,100	1,800	43,300
1974	34,200	5,600	1,200	40,400
POLLACK				
1971	40,800	23,400	40,400	124,000
1972	59,900	13,700	36,900	110,500
1973	56,300	12,900	38,600	107,800
1974	65,200	8,800	18,600	102,600
OCEAN PERCH				
1971	29,100	3,600	46,600	79,300
1972	27,000	3,700	44,000	74,700
1973	24,400	3,000	38,400	67,800
1974	27,800	2,500	30,400	60,700

Source: Icelandic Ministry of Fisheries

100. Here again the Icelanders will want a substantial drop in numbers corresponding to the reduction in the catch they hope will be agreed: the British negotiators must bear in mind the effect on employment in the East Coast ports if more trawlers have to be laid up.

The Icelanders' aim is ultimately to exclude all foreign fishing vessels from their limits in the belief that their own fleet of 63 trawlers and 850 other boats in the 12- to 400-ton range can successfully take the maximum catch compatible with conservation principles. They will, therefore, seek to have some undertaking written into any new agreement for the phasing out of the British fishing presence in Icelandic waters. This could, of course, occur in any case within a year or two, if the UN Conference on the Law of the Sea produces agreement on 200-mile economic zones for all coastal states.

Iceland's talks with the West Germans will centre on rather different matters, principally their catch, the West Germans because the Germans catch mostly pollack and ocean perch ready to accept a continuation and very little cod, and because of the present fishing by the they operate with different freezer vessels outside the 50-mile limit. The species fished by the Germans are found farther off-shore in Reykjavik is that it will be easier this time to settle the cod, many of them on the edge of the 50-mile limit. This, British.

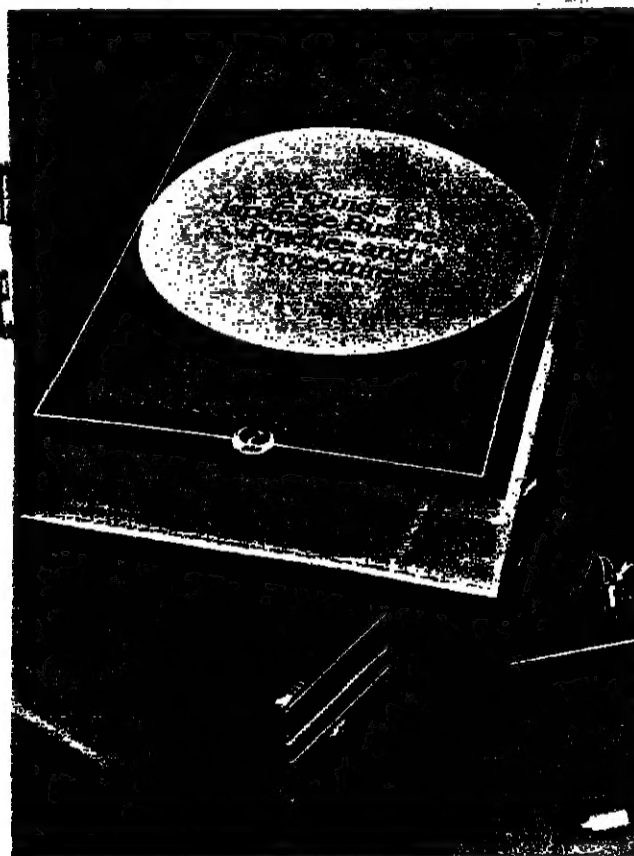
Quota

When agreements were being negotiated in 1972 a quota of 95,000 tons was fixed for the West Germans. Icelandic objection to the use of freezer trawlers by the Germans prevented any agreement being signed and has led to regular cutting of the trawls of German ships inside the 50-mile limit by the Icelandic coastguard. The Germans took just under 70,000 tons of fish from Icelandic waters in 1974.

The German talks essentially will have to determine the size of the catch to be taken within the 200-mile area by German vessels and deal with the vexed question of the freezer trawlers. If they agree to reduce their catch, the West Germans because the Germans catch mostly pollack and ocean perch ready to accept a continuation and very little cod, and because of the present fishing by the they operate with different freezer vessels outside the 50-mile limit. The species fished by the Germans are found farther off-shore in Reykjavik is that it will be easier this time to settle the cod, many of them on the edge of the 50-mile limit. This, British.

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HOME NEWS

Ulster to have stronger development agency

BY ROY HODSON

FACED with a worsening economic situation in Northern Ireland, the Government has decided to attempt to stimulate industrial investment there by creating a powerful new development organisation on the lines of the National Enterprise Board.

The chosen vehicle is to be the Northern Ireland Finance Corporation which was set up with a limited brief to help business damaged by the political situation.

The new body is likely to be based upon the existing professional team at the NIFC in Belfast and to be called the Northern Ireland Development Corporation or Agency. It is expected to have an available budget of some £15m. a year to use for the expansion and the regeneration of Northern Ireland industry.

The NIFC, which was set up in 1973, has been handling about £20m of funds each year. The financial year to last March, it invested £52m. and attracted further spending of a further £42m.

The chairman of the NIFC is Mr. Kenneth Cork and the general manager is a 31-year-old former Belfast banker, Mr. Franklin Adair. They are forecasting an expansion of the staff by about 30, answerable to a

Analysis

Substantial inward investment into Northern Ireland is unlikely in the foreseeable future. The proposed development body is therefore expected to concentrate upon helping local industries already established and analysing local companies to identify potential for growth.

A document to be circulated to-day by the Northern Ireland Finance Corporation attempts to define a role for the proposed development body. It urges that

the new body should "be empowered to set up companies and own, wholly or partly, the shares, and to transfer part of shareholdings to the employees in the businesses concerned, if it so desires."

Additional services to the business community would include the power to establish marketing organisations and selling agencies for Northern Ireland industries and to finance research and development. The development body should also be able to give assistance in cases which appear socially necessary although perhaps not economically justifiable. The Government is expected to agree to this proposal as long as such assistance is accounted for separately.

The proposed Northern Ireland development body will not be responsible for the Belfast shipbuilding company of Harland and Wolff which was taken over by the Government recently.

A Government-sponsored report on the company, which is now circulating, blames poor management and a lack of budgetary control as among the foremost reasons why the company ran into trouble in spite of a £55m. Government-backed modernisation scheme and a good order book.

Pru and Zurich lift motor insurance premiums by 15%

BY ERIC SHORT

NEARLY 1m. motorists face paying substantially higher premiums from November 1. Two more leading motor insurers, the Prudential Assurance and Zurich Insurance Group, will pay a premium of £4724, after no-claims bonus, for a 1300 c.c. car if he renews his insurance on November 1, compared with £3148 a year ago. This represents a 50 per cent rise.

The British Insurance Association says that there is no sign of any levelling-off in costs of spare parts and repairs. Court awards are about 30 per cent higher than a year ago. Thus increases at least in line with rises in earnings must be expected.

The Zurich last increased its rates on May 1 by an average of 20 per cent after having held them steady for more than a year. Motorists renewing with Zurich after November will pay premiums 38 per cent higher on average than a year ago.

The Pru is also lifting its rates for motor-cycles and commercial vehicles by 15 per cent. The Zurich does not write motorcycle insurance business and is leaving its commercial vehicle rates unchanged.

Crosland warns councils on spending

By John Moore

A FURTHER warning to local authorities about the extent of their overspending was made yesterday by Mr. Anthony Crosland, Environment Secretary.

He told the Parliamentary Labour Party that the Exchequer's contribution to local government finances was now two-thirds of local authority spending, and that last year the contribution had increased by 10 per cent.

Mr. Crosland doubted whether the whole of this 10 per cent was for absolutely essential expenditure. He thought that savings could be made by local authorities "against the present economic background."

Local Government spending was going up much faster than any other component of national spending, he said.

However, he said that he did not propose to make any change in capital spending voted by local authorities at least until after the Layfield Report on local Government finances was published "before the end of the year."

Answering one MP's suggestion that the rating system should be scrapped and that central government should bear all expenditure, he replied that this would make a transfer of £4bn. on to taxes "and we and everyone else must realise this would be resisted and resisted by a large number of people."

Although yesterday's meeting was called to discuss local limits on local authority spending, Mr. Crosland pointed out at the start that he could not say anything at this time about cash limits or the rate support grant.

The Government had arrived at no decision on the first, he said, and the statutory talks with the local authorities on the second were only three weeks away.

Referring to some Press reports of Tuesday's meeting of Mrs. Shirley Williams, P.M.S., Secretary, other Ministers, the CBI and the Retail Consortium, Mr. Crosland said: "I want to make it absolutely clear that the Government has no intention of applying price controls to rates. There is no truth in this suggestion whatever."

P & O move to reduce ferry loss

By Donald Maclean

P & O FERRIES is redeploying three of its 28 ships with the aim of avoiding losses on certain services amounting to about £14m. a year.

The moves are part of a "strategic decision" to concentrate on shorter, more intensive ferry routes and involve the abandoning of the present service from Southampton to San Sebastian, in Spain, the opening of the "first" drive-on facilities between Aberdeen and Lerwick, in Shetland, and negotiations to compete on the Dover-Boulogne route.

The ships involved are: the 3,350-ton Lion, which is to be switched to the Dover-Boulogne service, from the Ardrossan-Ulster run; the 4,400-ton Panther, due next year to enter the Aberdeen-Lerwick service after leaving the San Sebastian service on November 14; and the 2,800-ton St. Clair, which will be sold for further service or for scrap on being withdrawn from the Lion/off Shetland service.

The moves are the final stage of a restructuring of P & O's short sea run activities that started about nine months ago, and have included the sale of the 11,600-ton Eagle, which had lost £23m. on the Southampton-Lisbon-Southern Spain-Tangier route since 1971.

New fares

Fares on the Dover-Boulogne service are expected to be broadly in line with those offered by established services. The possibility of reopening the San Sebastian run if demand changes is under consideration.

Negotiations for opening the new cross-Channel service are said to be "at an advanced stage." The service is planned to be operated by Normandy Ferries, a partnership between P & O and SAGA, of Paris. It will initially provide up to four sailings daily in each direction.

The service operated by the Lion between Ardrossan and Ulster will continue until the end of February 1976. The ship will then be withdrawn for modification before her proposed entry into the Dover-Boulogne service, which is hoped to start on May 1.

Studies as to how to maintain a P & O service between Ardrossan and Ulster will take place over the coming four months, and will involve consultations with staff, unions and customers. A freight service, at least, is planned to continue. The question of continuing a passenger service is open.

Some 22 people and 14 cars have booked the earlier scheduled November 15 sailing of the Panther to San Sebastian, and fewer than 400 people on the six sailings which had been scheduled between that date and the end of the year.

These figures are to be seen against the background of the Panther's capacity of 430 passengers and 300 cars. Passengers booked will be offered a "full refund" accommodation on an alternative service from Southampton to Bilbao, or a P & O Ferries passage to Le Havre plus a refund.

£15m. wool textile industry aid scheme may be extended

BY RHYS DAVID

THE GOVERNMENT'S £15m. wool textile industry scheme, which was due to close at the end of the year, may be extended to allow the available grant money to be fully taken up.

So far, the Government has either paid out or is due to pay out a total of about £11m. under the scheme, which is designed to encourage modernisation and restructuring within wool textiles, leaving a further £4m. unspent.

The wool textile industry economic development committee, which prepared and has been monitoring the scheme, is expected to recommend an extension so that companies can be given more time to come forward. The decision will rest, however, with the Department of Industry, which is responsible for administering the scheme under the Industrial Act, 1972. EEC Commission approval for any extension will probably also have to be obtained.

In total, the number of applications made by the industry, which consists of about 400 companies, mostly in Yorkshire with important branches in Scotland, and the West of England, has been reasonably high. About 130 applications have been made under the provision for re-equipment and rebuilding and 115 under the section 'dealing

Limiting factor

The scale of the schemes which the industry itself is finding roughly 80 per cent of funds, has inevitably limited, however, by the extension which has affected the textile industry as a whole, felt an extension would. Up to one week ago 64 companies had been receiving re-equipment projects, and 66 for complete re-equipment and rebuilding, involving a total expenditure of £38m. or equipment and £11.2m. The total commitment on these projects is estimated at £44m. and means to date have amounted to £24m.

Payments totalling £56 have been made under the scheme, with £238,000 being paid for closures in the combining, totalling a further £100,000 are expected to be on applications still pending at this stage.

School managers 'judges of teaching'

BY MICHAEL DIXON, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

THE IMPORTANCE of the school manager as a judge of teaching was highlighted in London yesterday during the public inquiry into the school's affairs.

It was the third day of the examination before Mr. Robin Auld, Q.C. of the dispute between seven of the school's eight full-time teachers and its managing body, which culminated last month in a three-week unofficial strike by the seven staff.

Continuing the examination for the Inner London Education Authority, Mr. Edward Davidson mentioned two matters which indicated anxiety on the part of the seven staff and apparently of the National Union of Teachers to which they belong—that no discretion to judge the quality of teaching should be given to the managing body, whose members include parents and other educational "laymen."

The first of these matters was an attempted visit to the Billingtun school by Mr. Robin Auld, Q.C. of the dispute between seven of the school's eight full-time teachers and its managing body, which culminated last month in a three-week unofficial strike by the seven staff.

Mr. Davidson said that later inquiry might hear evidence that the ILEA should have acted earlier over the dispute, which has been going on at least since the summer of 1974.

But it was the Authority's own inquiry which was the subject of the inquiry after it returned to the ILEA on Tuesday.

Before the adjournment, it was announced that it is planned to hold a disciplinary hearing of the seven staff against the seven staff. The hearing will be held after the public inquiry has ended.

Later, the head and Mr. Brian Hadwin, the teachers' representative on the managing body, wrote public inquiry with the difficult task of avoiding prejudicing the ILEA's schools sub-committee, in second hearing. The prospect of a separate disciplinary hearing, they objected to Mr. Auld's attempt to visit a class-room, on the grounds that assessing teaching was not the job of the managing body, but of the school's governing body.

Mr. Davidson also mentioned a second letter to Mr. Auld, which would be able to attribute blame from all seven of the teaching staff, in which they declared teachers' unofficial strike action.

Lowson profits repaid, court told

FINANCIAL TIMES REPORTER

REPRESENTATIVES of the late Sir Denis Lowson, who died in 1974, have been told by the court that the profits made by his City business empire through the National Group of unit trusts were repaid to him.

The move was formally announced yesterday when Sir Denis was legally represented by Mr. John Mathew, for the DPF.

It is believed that the amount repaid was £27m. This is expected to go towards the full repayment of the public interest, and this to £7m. This is expected to go towards the full repayment of the public interest, and this to £7m.

Mr. Mathew said his client group formed when Sir Denis was a partner in the Lowson family, and that he was not a partner in the Lowson family, and that he was not a partner in the Lowson family.

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Housing starts up after August fall

BY MICHAEL CASSELL

THE GRADUAL improvement in housing activity continued in September, with both local authority and private sectors sharing the increase in output.

Provisional figures for August had given rise to fears that the modest recovery in housing activity over recent months had come to an abrupt end, but later information showed the downturn had not been so severe.

The provisional figures for last month, released yesterday by the Department of the Environment, indicate that the position was restored in September, with starts and completions broadly back to the levels of the previous few months.

According to the department, total housing starts in September reached 28,000 compared with 26,700 in August. Although down on the June and July totals, they remained well ahead of last year's levels. In September 1974, total starts stood at 20,000.

High point

The number of private homes on which work began last month totalled 13,000—a minor increase over August but nearly double the figure recorded a year earlier.

In the local authority sector, starts reached an encouraging 15,000 in September, up from 12,000 in August 1974.

The provisional figures suggest that the rate of completions in the owner-occupied sector during September reached the highest point since October, 1974. A total of 13,000 homes were made ready for occupation against 12,000 in the preceding month and 11,000 in September last year.

As in the starts programme, however, the best performance came in the council housing sector, with completions reaching 14,000 against 12,000 in August and 10,800 a year earlier.

There remains plenty of room for further improvement, but the housing programme does appear to be running at quite respectable levels—although the monthly figures have been fluctuating rather wildly, making it difficult to determine any definite trends.

Local authority housing work seems to be holding up well and it is still reluctant to expand in the private sector that is holding back the overall programme.

The department's figures for the third quarter of this year do provide a better indication of how the industry is performing.

On a seasonally-adjusted basis, total starts are calculated to have risen in the third quarter by 12 per cent on the previous three months and by 39 per cent on the same period of 1974. Total completions were 1 per cent up.

GENERAL ELECTRIC OVERSEAS CAPITAL CORPORATION

4 1/2% Guaranteed Bonds Due 1985

Notice of Redemption of Guaranteed Bonds

The right to convert these Bonds at the principal amount into the common stock of General Electric Overseas Capital Corporation expires on November 30, 1975.

October 30, 1975



AN APPEAL for £750,000 for the Oxford Union Society, which is in financial difficulty due to the state of repair of its buildings and the need to repay loans, was launched in London yesterday by Mr. Harold Macmillan (left) with Mr. Robin Day and Lord Hailsham, both ex-presidents of the union, in attendance. (Men and Matters, Page 18).

September fire damage cost £16.6m.

By Eric Short

THE ESTIMATED cost of fire damage in Great Britain during September was £16.6m., according to the British Insurance Association.

This is £10.8m. lower than the figure for August—at £27.4m. the year's highest—but nearly £1m. higher than that for the same month last year.

Fire damage so far this year totals £166.4m. compared with £175.1m. for the same period last year. Last year's figure, though, includes the damage at Epsom, the largest single fire damage claim recorded in the U.K. and if this is excluded, the trend of fire damage is still upwards and 1975 could still turn out to be a worse year than 1974.

During September there were two large fires at schools. One school in eastern England, suffered damage estimated to be in excess of £1m., while at the other in Wales the damage was more than £800,000.

A fire at a printing factory in the West of England caused damage of nearly £1m.

A woman PM—by Macmillan

MRS. MARGARET THATCHER or an asset in electoral terms could make a very good Prime Minister, in the opinion of Mr. Harold Macmillan, but 30 or 40 years ago it would not have been practical to have a woman Prime Minister.

The 51-year-old former Conservative Premier discusses the role of women in politics in the second of his BBC 1 TV interviews recalling "past masters" being screened to-night.

Mr. Macmillan says that the choice of Mrs. Thatcher as leader shows just how up to date the Conservative Party is today. But he goes on:

"You can't see a woman running the 1940 war; however clever. I don't think," says Mr. Macmillan. "Or running the enormous problems that faced an Empire which had to be put into dissolution."

"I don't think it will be difficult for Mrs. Thatcher, but I do think it would have been difficult to have gone through, let us say, the years 1940 to 1945 with a woman as Prime Minister. I don't think it would be physically possible," he says.

Mr. Macmillan says he does not think it would be either a liability or an asset in electoral terms having a woman as leader of the Conservative Party. "She'll make a very good Prime Minister I'm certain," is his final judgment.

Mr. Macmillan also deals with his personal knowledge of Stanley Baldwin, Neville Chamberlain and Sir Winston Churchill as Prime Ministers.

Mr. Baldwin, he says, let the Conservative Central Office present him with a pipe and a picture of "safety first, trust Baldwin" and with his pigs. "He hated pigs," declares Mr. Macmillan.

Mr. Chamberlain's verdict on Mr. Macmillan is: "He was a tragic figure in our life, because there was so much so good and so much of all our daily lives owed to his reforms. He was unsuited for this place."

Of Sir Winston Churchill, he says: "It looked as if almost providence had guided us to have this one man, who had been completely out of office, responsible on one side or the other, to come to in May, 1940, when it looked almost impossible to save his country from conquest and invasion."

No one could have been in so many places during the course of an "ordinary" week without working long hours. A 16-hour day was normal for Sir Alfred, yet everywhere he was welcomed he seemed remarkably relaxed. His always drove himself hard, and to some degree seemed to find driving a therapy. It became something of a light-hearted remark that someone who had so many times been caught for speeding should become chairman of the Road Safety Association.

Nor could anyone with so many diverse interests—he was also a county councillor, Governor of Birmingham University and a Pro-Chancellor of Keele University—have carried on his business successfully and expansively without devoted and experienced help. His brother Ernest, who joined him on the death of their father, and who lived in his public shadow, was joint managing director to self-effacing and equally efficient servant of the company. Ernest died in 1967, throwing an extra burden upon Sir Alfred.

His religious interests seemed to take an unusual turn when he became involved with Moral Re-armed, which grew out of the Oxford Group Movement, and while he never at any time thrust his beliefs at people, his workers became acutely aware of his principles when in more recent years they kicked over the traces of parental authority and acted like others in the motor industry and went on strike. All the same, human relations, rather than what is called industrial relations, influenced the whole of the engineering empire.

One could have been in so many places during the course of an "ordinary" week without working long hours. A 16-hour day was normal for Sir Alfred, yet everywhere he was welcomed he seemed remarkably relaxed. His always drove himself hard, and to some degree seemed to find driving a therapy. It became something of a light-hearted remark that someone who had so many times been caught for speeding should become chairman of the Road Safety Association.

Sir Alfred Owen



SIR ALFRED OWEN

Children Bill approved

THE CHILDREN BILL establishing a comprehensive adoption service completed its Commons stages early yesterday. It has already passed through the Lords.

Dr. David Owen, Minister of State, Health, warned MPs that it would be quite wrong to suggest that many of the desirable provisions of the Bill could be immediately implemented.

"This Bill is going to have to be implemented in phases, at a speed many of us will regret, but we will serve the interests of the children far better by being realistic about our resources. We must move at a pace which will match our means with our aspirations."

OBITUARY

SIR ALFRED OWEN, 67, head of one of the country's largest private engineering companies, Rubery Owen, died yesterday in Sutton Coldfield Cottage Hospital near Birmingham after a long illness. He is survived by three sons and two daughters of whom David, now 38, and John, the former England rugby international, 35, have been virtually in control since Sir Alfred suffered his first heart attack in 1970.

At his height Rubery Owen had a £55m. turnover and employed nearly 18,000 people in almost 100 different companies throughout the U.K. and some 20 more overseas, principally in South Africa and Australia. It was second only to the Pilkington group as a private company. It now employs some 9,000 in the U.K. and 1,200 overseas.

Sir Alfred built up a formidable and many-pronged engineering enterprise over more than 40 years of concentrated and devoted service which reflected two of the dominant sides of his character—the determination to make a success of the business into which he was pitchforked at the age of 21 on the death of his father without being able to complete his Cambridge education, and his compassion and concern for the less fortunate.

As a good businessman he could see the potentialities of companies that he acquired and sought to exploit them, generally successfully. But his bedrock Christian faith was sometimes at variance with hard business acumen and he fought to

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After a day spent wrestling with executive problems, no man wants to wrestle with an executive car.

Over the years many cars have borne the tag 'executive'.

A device guaranteed to keep them off most executives' shopping list.

A glance in any company car park will show that the top spots are occupied by cars that help, rather than label, their owners.

To this list of discreet, comfortable cars you can now add the Volvo 264GL.

At £5596, it's the most expensive Volvo we've ever built. And the best.

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The engine is a new all-aluminium V-6 with twin overhead camshafts. It's as quiet and smooth as you'd expect in a car of this quality.

The automatic transmission is the very latest to be used by Volvo and is noticeably smoother than many other systems.

(Of course, if you prefer to shift for yourself, a manual gearbox is also available.)

The steering is power-assisted, but there's no sensation of take-over. The driver still feels a contact between car and road.

Air-conditioning is a standard feature on the GL.

It has advantages other than that of keeping the temperature down. In summer, because you can drive with all the windows firmly closed, it also keeps the noise down.

(If you find yourself frequently driving on motorways you'll appreciate how tiring noise can be.)

The Volvo seats have long been a model to the rest of the motor industry.

They are designed not by thwarted furniture stylists but by dedicated engineers and orthopaedic specialists.

In Volvo's laboratories, the activity

of the spinal muscles were measured under various conditions, and as a result of this research, a unique lumbar support control was built into the Volvo's seats.

It has been proved beyond doubt that this feature can reduce the strain on back muscles.

Naturally, all this science is elegantly obscured by real leather.

Other visible signs of the 264's quality include metallic paint, tinted electric windows, deep pile carpet, headlamp washer/wipers and a sliding steel sun-roof.

But perhaps the most comforting feature of driving a Volvo is one you can't see. And hopefully never will.

Extensive statistical research into road accidents in Sweden (where almost every make of car is represented) showed that there were fewer fatal accidents in Volvos; that Volvos were safer in head-on collisions, and that they were by far the safest in collisions with other cars.

Think about that for a minute.

If your fellow directors don't see the significance, maybe they should talk to your wife.



VOLVO 264

ACCOUNTANCY APPOINTMENTS

EMA

Systems Development Accountant

Dorking, Surrey.

Circa £5000 plus mortgage assistance.

Our client, Friends' Provident, is one of the U.K.'s leading life assurance companies, and is currently developing one of the most advanced data base control and management information computer systems in the insurance field. A young accountant is now required to add further expertise to this development.

He will be a member of the user liaison team which is responsible for defining systems requirements and ensuring that the results meet expectations. He will spend several weeks learning about the company and its business and will then take primary responsibility for defining the needs of the accounting area.

The experience gained in this assignment will be invaluable and applicants, preferably graduate Chartered Accountants, should telephone or write to David Hogg A.C.A. who is advising on this position.

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The group is a world leader in its field, has a remarkable growth record and is exceptionally well placed in the present climate to take advantage of its lead in advanced technology.

Location Switzerland, salary is for discussion.

Please send brief details, which will be treated in confidence, to:

E. J. Robins, The Executive Selection Division - MF483,
Coopers & Lybrand Associates Ltd., Management Consultants,
Shelley House, Noble Street, London, EC2V 7DQ.

Controller of Audit and Investigations

London

£10,000 +

British Gas is a Corporation with a gross cash flow of £3,000m and over 100,000 employees. A key post in the financial structure at Holborn is that of Controller of Audit and Investigations who is responsible to the Member for Finance. The Controller of Audit and Investigations has direct access to the Chairman and Deputy Chairman.

This post presents a unique opportunity to make a real contribution to management throughout the industry. Internal Audit in British Gas is highly organised with considerable emphasis being placed on D.P. Audit and the audit of capital contracts.

Candidates must be able to demonstrate an outstanding degree of both audit and management ability. The job will entail a considerable amount of travelling to all parts of Great Britain. Salary will be in the region of £9,950 + £402 Inner London Weighting.

Applications, accompanied by a full career history and quoting reference F.005 549 FT, should be made to the Personnel Manager (HQ), British Gas, 59 Bryanston St, London, W1A 2AZ. Closing date for applications 17th November, 1975.

BRITISH GAS

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Mervyn Hughes Group

59 St. Mary Axe, London, EC3A 8AR

Management Recruitment Consultants

01-283 0037
(24 hours)

Senior Accountant/Analyst

c. £5,500

London SW1

Our Client, the British Airports Authority owns and operates the U.K.'s major international airports - including Heathrow and Gatwick. A Senior Accountant is required to join the Finance Department at the Head Office near Victoria. This is a challenging appointment involving participation, as a key member of a financial team, in the developing activities of the Authority. Apart from an involvement in monthly/annual accounts budgets and forecasting responsibilities will include long range financial plans, cash flow/profitability studies and special investigations.

Eligible Candidates should be qualified Accountants aged 25-30 and preferably with a degree in a numerate science.

Please write or phone 01-283 2844 to: B. G. Luxton, Ref. 5605A.

GROUP FINANCE CONTROLLER

£7,000 +

A Group Finance Controller is required by an old established Wholesale and Retail Food Distribution Group whose sales exceed £25m. p.a.

The environment is highly competitive and challenging; this calls for a high degree of management skill. An awareness of the importance of accurate control through advanced techniques of financial management reporting is essential.

The successful applicant will be a chartered accountant, have a wide knowledge of industry, understand computer based systems, be aged 30-40 years and be prepared to reside near Shrewsbury.

He will report to the Chairman and, after a suitable initial period, will be eligible for appointment to the main Board.

Fringe benefits include a company car, whole life insurance, long term disability insurance, part BUPA cover and a profit sharing scheme.

All replies, which will be treated with confidence, should include c.v. and salary progression, and be addressed to The Chairman, Morgan Edwards Limited, Sundorne House, Featherbed Lane, Shrewsbury, SY1 4NS.

CHIEF ACCOUNTANT

£5,000/£6,000 p.a.

The successful applicant will be a qualified Chartered Accountant (or Management Accountant) and will have a commercial background. An ability to implement a firm financial planning and control system is important. The company is based in the South East. Write in the first instance to the Chairman, Box A5299, Financial Times, 10 Cannon Street, EC4P 4BY.

INTERNATIONAL FINANCE

A major international financial corporation with operations throughout Europe is seeking an individual to assist the senior financial officer in Europe in its Treasury Department.

Primary responsibilities will include European-wide cash management and control, financial analysis and assessment of credit risks. Candidates should be in their twenties or early thirties and should have practical experience gained in banking or a corporate treasury function. A good working knowledge of Sterling, European currency and money market would be a distinct advantage.

This appointment, London based, involves some travel to European financial centres and offers considerable opportunity for the development of financial and management skills. Attractive salary by negotiation. Please write to Box A5295, Financial Times, 10, Cannon Street, EC4P 4BY.

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A leading U.S. multinational corporation with its European headquarters in Mayfair seeks an accountant with international audit experience to head up a small team of specialists.

Reporting to the Director of Auditors, he will be responsible for the implementation of financial control systems, the investigation of joint-venture interests and the development of operational audit techniques throughout Europe.

The successful applicant should be able to demonstrate a significant record of achievement in an international accounting role and possess the potential to progress to a senior vice-president level.

In the first instance, please telephone or write to:

LLOYD CHAPMAN ASSOCIATES
9 Maddox Street London W1P 6LE

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Mervyn Hughes Group

59 St. Mary Axe, London, EC3A 8AR

Management Recruitment Consultants

01-283 0037
(24 hours)

Group Budget Controller-Overseas

Negotiable salary - should appeal to men earning circa £7,500 p.a. in U.K.

A dynamic and expanding industrial group requires a qualified accountant aged under 45, married and with 7-10 years industrial experience, ideally including exposure to computerised systems, to fill a key appointment as Group head-quartered. He will be responsible for co-ordinating and controlling the budgets of all group companies, monitoring performance against targets, analysing variances and reporting to top management. Benefits include free housing or allowances in lieu, use of company car, part medical expenses, paid U.K. leave every 2 years. The initial contract is for three years (renewable). Living conditions are pleasant. A realistic tax free salary will be negotiated to provide for cost of living and incentive. Good promotion prospects exist dependent on performance. Applications by telephone (01-283 3607) for further information, or by letter to Gerald Brown in strict confidence Ref. 5604B.

CHIEF ACCOUNTANT

South of Chester

£7,000 + Car

This is a new appointment in a restructured, profitable and fast expanding transport group, operating in the U.K., Europe and the Middle East.

The Chief Accountant will report to the Managing Director and have a functional link to the Financial Controller of the parent company.

A Chartered Accountant aged about 30 is required who must be able to manage and develop the transport group's accounting practices but who will also be

capable of a general contribution to profitable growth, in liaison with senior operating managers, advising on long-term commercial contracts, etc. Previous finance management including the use of modern disciplined controls is essential: an interest in road transport economics is desirable.

Please write in confidence to H. C. Holmes.

Bull Holmes Limited,
45 Albemarle Street,
London, W1X 3FE
quoting reference number: 652.

ACCOUNTANCY APPOINTMENTS

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Financial Controller

France

A French subsidiary of a major British engineering group, which manufactures and markets a range of high technology products for the energy industry and is expanding from its current turnover of £10 million per annum, is looking for a man to join its management team.

Reporting to the Managing Director, and operating in an environment which has a high degree of local autonomy, skilled to tight financial controls, the Financial Controller carries considerable responsibility. He needs to be a qualified Accountant, fluent in French, with a minimum of four years experience of managing the total financial/administration functions within a manufacturing/marketing orientated organisation, and working to a high standard of financial control. In addition, he must be capable of effecting and managing change across the full spectrum of his function, including EDF systems, and of subsequently justifying promotion within the Group.

A substantial salary is envisaged and relocation assistance will be provided.

Replies giving full details of previous experience should be sent to Position No. AGF 5146, Austin Knight Limited, London W1A 1DS.

Applications are forwarded to the client concerned, therefore companies in which you are not interested should be listed in a covering letter to the Position Number Supervisor.

AK ADVERTISING

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT

A Paris-based firm of Chartered Accountants is looking for a candidate (age 35 years max.) to occupy a post of

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Applicants will have had professional experience with Anglo-Saxon accounting firm(s) established in France and will be ready to live in Paris. A sound knowledge of French is essential. Good career prospects.

ETUDES ET RECHERCHES COMMERCIALES,
7 rue Lauriston, 75115-Paris (France).

Finance Manager

North London

Circa £6500

Currently undergoing rapid expansion, our client now requires a Finance Manager for its division of three precision engineering units turning over £18 million.

He will be responsible for the entire finance and accounting function of these units. Reporting to the General Manager he will supervise 8 staff and will be expected to develop systems, implement controls, monitor and review reports, and carry out projects orientated towards business development and profitability.

As a key member of the top management team he will be closely involved in the development of this substantial division.

Applicants, aged 27-35, should be qualified accountants with at least 3 years experience in a manufacturing environment and should telephone or write to David Hogg A.C.A. who is advising on this position.

EMA Management Personnel Ltd
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SPP is a successful, marketing orientated, group of companies based on an old-established pump manufacturing business. It has interests in contracting, control equipment, irrigation and agro-industrial planning. A large proportion of its £10m turnover is exported: it employs 650 and is a wholly owned (and largely autonomous) subsidiary of Booker McConnell.

The present finance director is being promoted within Booker's Engineering Division and a successor is sought who will be responsible to the Chief Executive for all financial aspects of the group's operations.

The successful applicant will be a qualified accountant, probably 35-45, with broad experience embracing many or all of:

Industrial accountancy, computer methods and management, acquisitions, project appraisals, export finance, foreign currency transactions and the pricing of competitive bids.

A car, relocation expenses and usual large company benefits will be included in the remuneration package.

Please write to: J. A. Nutt, Chief Executive,

SPP Group Limited
Oxford Road
Reading RG3 1JD

SPP
A Booker McConnell Co.

Assistant Internal Auditor

Amsterdam

Our client, a major international trading company, seeks an Assistant Internal Auditor to join the internal audit staff in Amsterdam.

- Candidates will have:
- ACA or equivalent
 - 2-4 years of auditing experience including operational and financial auditing
 - good command of the English language, additional languages are an asset
 - ability to work independently.

The position offers:

- competitive salary based on experience and qualifications
- excellent fringe benefits
- exposure which leads to promotional opportunities.

Please write, giving brief details of age, education and experience, quoting ref. 1174, to:

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Arne Kneit,
Binder Hamlyn Fry & Co.,
76 Shoe Lane,
London EC4A 3RE

Audit Manager

£8000-£9000

Our client, a major international company, seeks an Audit Manager to head up a professional team responsible for internal auditing and related functions throughout Europe.

Applicants should hold a professional accounting qualification and should have substantial experience in a large public accounting organisation. Proven supervisory or management experience is a prerequisite. Promotional prospects within the Company are solid, and conditions of employment first-class.

The position will be based in West London.

Please write with full details to Position No. BNA 5145, Austin Knight Limited, London W1A 1DS.

Applications are forwarded to the client concerned, therefore companies in which you are not interested should be listed in a covering letter to the Position Number Supervisor.

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GENERAL APPOINTMENTS
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An additional senior member is sought, whose exact status will be open to discussion, but who will require an advanced ability to interpret taxing statutes and who will possess a flair for problem solving.

Whilst formal academic achievements in themselves are not important, the man appointed will probably be a solicitor, or possibly, a barrister or chartered accountant. Because he will be dealing with clients, banks and other advisers at the highest levels, it is essential to demonstrate considerable intellect and authority.

Whilst initial salary will be probably within the range quoted, applications are invited from those capable of commanding a higher figure - certainly the successful individual can expect to earn considerably more, once established.

To apply in total confidence contact David Adams, Solicitor, on 01-405 3499.

No information will be disclosed without specific consent.



Lloyd Management

Brownlow House, 50, 51 High Holborn, London WC1V 6ER. Tel: 01-405 3499

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A letter outlining your accomplishments and intentions could result in an exploratory interview that might be the first step in advancing yourself towards a rewarding position within a career growth environment.

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5 Rue Pierre-Fénelon,
1204 Geneva,
Switzerland
or 19000 London (01) 724 5025

PROGRESSIVE

STOCKBROKERS

require

MANAGER

Applicants must have a minimum of 10 years Stock Exchange experience, hold a senior position and have in-depth knowledge of preparing stockbroking accounts for audit purposes.

Please write giving details of previous experience to Box A 5298, Financial Times, 10, Cannon Street, EC4P 4BY.

UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES MIDDLE EAST

Due to a substantial growth programme, a major Kuwaiti private trading firm engaged in the Sales and Servicing of automobiles, trucks, electronic products and construction equipment seeks competent applicants aged 25-35, preferably Arabic-speaking Graduates, to fill the following vacancies immediately:

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As the 'link' between the work force and management, this is a key position. Preferably, an Arab or someone fluent in Arabic. Responsible for the day-to-day welfare of the employees, reporting labour problems to top management, keeping records of holidays, absenteeism, etc.

Compensation Officers

Applicants will have to provide proof of ability in work studies, in automotive heavy equipment manufacturing company or have some knowledge of computer systems or experience of organisational methods and job evaluation for competition and comparison.

Recruitment Officers

These positions call for skill and experience in the person-to-person task of interviewing and screening potential applicants and to work on special projects.

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The successful applicant will work in the Credit Division of a major finance group. Experience in a similar position is required.

Attractive Benefits

- TAX-FREE SALARIES - up to £5,500 p.a. for Labour Relations Officer - up to £5,000 p.a. for other positions.
- FREE country-wide medical services.
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- Excellent opportunities for advancement.
- All positions are suited to Arab nationals but applications from non-nationals would be considered.

Applicants should in the first instance send c.v. (detailing position applied for, age, languages, qualifications, experience, telephone number and availability) in confidence to Box A5288, Financial Times, 10 Cannon Street EC4P 4BY

Charles Barker Recruitment Confidential Reply Service

Please send full career details and list separately companies to which we should not forward your reply. Write the reference number on the envelope and post to our London office, 30 Farnington Street, London EC4A 4EA.

Investment Fund Manager

Our clients, a City accepting house, are now expanding their investment management services.

The Investment Fund Manager will come in at senior management level and take responsibility for the House's managed funds as well as dealing with clients' portfolios to meet their individual requirements. He will therefore have at least four years' experience of fund management at a high level, probably in a merchant bank or leading stockbroking firm, and have administered substantial portfolios. He will also be keen to develop new business and be prepared to travel and promote the Bank's business in all aspects.

Experience of overseas securities markets will be valuable, as will a knowledge of another European language, particularly German.

The salary is negotiable, according to experience and qualifications, and future prospects will be limited only by ability.

Reference 1337

TEXTILES

A vacancy exists in the Research Department of a major firm of stockbrokers for an experienced analyst to cover the Textile sector. The requirement is to produce in-depth work principally for the use of the firm's Institutional clients. Background qualifications would include a university degree and research experience with either an investment institution or with a firm of stockbrokers.

Applications will be forwarded direct to our client. Please indicate in a covering letter any firm to whom you do not wish your application to be sent. Please write, quoting ref. 792, to:

W. L. Tait,
Temple Road & Co.,
Management Consultants,
Executive Selection Division,
27 Chancery Lane,
London WC2A 2NF.
Tel: 01-242 9431.

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Merrill Lynch International seeks a seasoned commodity professional for a senior post in a newly formed venture based in Iran. The executive selected will have a minimum of ten years experience dealing in a broad range of physical commodities, a general knowledge of the futures markets and a proven record of success in sales. He will be prepared to spend three to five years in Iran on this assignment and will either have lived there previously or have acquired a knowledge of the country from past business dealings in Iran.

To make application for this highly paid and professionally challenging opening, please send a curriculum vitae providing full details of your background and qualifications in strictest confidence to:

Roger J. Davis,
International Personnel Director,
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95 Gresham Street, London EC2.
MERRILL LYNCH INTERNATIONAL INCORPORATED

MANAGING DIRECTOR (Designate) c. £12,000

This Scottish based appointment is with BAXTERS OF SPEYSIDE, famous throughout the world as manufacturers of extremely high quality, well marketed food products.

The important qualifications are: age 35-42; almost certainly a Graduate in a numerate or business related discipline; a successful record of profit accountable management in fast moving consumer goods; plus a current involvement and complete understanding of today's grocery retail environment.

He will report to the Chairman and be expected to contribute to the Company's profitable growth at home and overseas, by the provision of firm decisive leadership, motivation and direction to a competent team of professional managers with functional responsibility.

Salary by negotiation around £12,000 plus car, normal fringe benefits, the possibility of some equity and profit sharing participation. Temporary accommodation is available and relocation expenses are naturally envisaged. Appointment to the Board would be after a minimum probationary period.

If you feel you meet this specification, please telephone or write for application form and job specification, in complete confidence, to: Personnel Division,

Eric Jameson Associates Ltd.,
110 High Street, Solihull, West Midlands, B91 3TA.
Telephone 021-705 7399.

International Business Executive

We seek an internationally orientated business executive to become Confidential Assistant to the Vice President of a Saudi Arabian company which is expanding its world wide interests, already having an annual turnover in excess of 100 million pounds sterling.

He will be expected to assist and advise the Vice President in the evaluation of new ventures, identify fresh opportunities and carry out administrative tasks involved in the management of the present company.

Preferably having a legal qualification, his background might be in international finance or real estate. He may also have gained some marketing or general management experience within a multi-national organisation.

Probably single and in his thirties, he will spend a considerable time travelling but will be based in the Middle East.

Salary, which is negotiable and free of tax, could be in excess of £25,000 per annum - indicating the calibre of individual being sought.

Please write in confidence, quoting reference 60127, to Mr. D. Maxwell-Lyte, Knight Wegenstein Limited, 75 Mosley Street, Manchester, M2 3HR. Telephone 061-236 0987



Knight Wegenstein Limited
(Incorporating Kaley Associates)
Management Consultants and Consulting Engineers
London - Manchester - Edinburgh - Zurich - Düsseldorf - Chicago

GILT-EDGED SALESMAN

Institutional firm of London Stockbrokers have a vacancy in their expanding gilt department. A Salesman is required to join young team in order to increase coverage of firm's extensive list of clients. Prospects are excellent. Competitive salary by negotiation.

Write in the first instance giving full personal details to Mr. Butler, Connell, May & Stevenson Ltd., William Lake House, Marshall Street, W.1, with a covering letter stating the names of any firms to whom you would not wish your reply to be forwarded.

LEASING

NEW BUSINESS PERSONNEL

Required by the International Leasing group of major International Bank for its U.K. operation. Successful candidates are likely to be in their thirties and should have marketing experience with a major finance house or bank. Salary by negotiation and usual bank fringe benefits will apply.

Full details to:
Box A5296, Financial Times,
10 Cannon Street, EC4P 4BY

WOOD, MACKENZIE & CO. STOCKBROKERS are seeking to recruit a DEALER

We require a dealer with mining experience to join our International Department in London. The person we have in view will have several years' experience in this field. Salary will be commensurate with age and experience and there will be considerable scope for the right person as he will be expected to develop a senior role in our International Dealing Department.

Applications, including details of age, qualifications and experience, should be sent to the Partner in charge of our International Department:

R. L. Norbury, WOOD, MACKENZIE & CO.,
62-63 Threadneedle Street, London EC2R 8EP

SHORTLOAN INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

Applications are invited from EURODOLLAR DEPOSIT BROKERS with considerable knowledge of the London Market. Successful applicants should have at least five years experience, incorporating a full understanding of both the North American and European Markets.

All replies, which will be treated in the strictest confidence, should be addressed to:

Mr. N. H. Woolley, Chairman,
SHORTLOAN INTERNATIONAL LTD.,
4 City Road, Finsbury Square,
London, EC1Y 2AU
Tel: 01-588 6292

MARKETING DIRECTOR

£7,000+

A Marketing Director is required to control and expand the profitability of an old established Wholesale and Retail Food Distribution Group whose current annual sales exceed £25m. p.a.

The appointment is new and is based on a revised organisation table which has been introduced as a result of a number of acquisitions.

The successful applicant is likely to be aged 30-40, have a wide knowledge of marketing and be prepared to reside near Shrewsbury.

He will have been successfully accountable for profits, preferably in the food industry and should also be able to work with executives, skilled in other fields including finance, general administration, computers, work study, etc. He will report to the Group Managing Director and Chairman.

Fringe benefits include a company car, whole life insurance, long term disability insurance, part BUPA cover and a profit sharing scheme.

All replies, which will be treated with confidence, should include c.v. and salary progression, and be addressed to The Chairman, Morgan Edwards Limited, Sundome House, Featherbed Lane, Shrewsbury, SY1 4NS.



PA ADVERTISING LIMITED
2 Albert Gate, London SW1X 7JU. Tel: 01-235 6060

COMMODITY DOCUMENTATION CLERKS

8 Managers £2,500-£4,000 p.a. Clerks
tenhouse appointments. 01-338 2377.



CONSULTANTS

Commodities Research Unit is a growing firm of independent economic consultants with offices in London and New York, advising governments and international companies on problems relating to all aspects of the development and marketing of primary raw materials.

A senior consultant of director calibre is required to join its London headquarters. He must be capable of taking full responsibility for the conduct of projects and must not only have considerable analytic and writing ability, but also be able to motivate and control a research team. A second degree in economics, or a related subject, would be an advantage, as would be a familiarity with commodity problems, especially in the field of non-renewable natural resources.

Candidates should be in the range 25-35 years with not less than five years' experience as an applied economist in an internationally oriented business, government service or an economics institute evaluating international problems. Remuneration c.£8,000 p.a.

CRU is also looking for an economist with good analytic and writing capabilities to work as a member of a research team. A second degree in economics would be desirable. Remuneration c.£5,300 p.a.

Please telephone or submit CV to:
Administrative Director,
Commodities Research Unit Limited,
55 Gower Street,
London WC1E 6HJ.
Telephone: 01-437 2886

GENERAL APPOINTMENTS

INTERNATIONAL BANKING

TO £7,000 p.a.

A challenging career opportunity exists for a Marketing Officer in the expanding Africa Division of a leading U.S. International Bank in London.

The successful applicant will be aged 28 to 35 and required to manage and develop account relationships in substantial proportions.

This is a dynamic job and will require an exceptional individual to succeed in it having an in-depth knowledge of banking operations, plus experience in Trade Financing as an Advance Manager. It is essential that this experience has been gained in banking in Africa and London over a 5/7 year period.

Whilst career opportunities will be initially centred in this specialist area of activity the breadth of the Bank's world-wide opportunities can ultimately be available for the right person.

In addition to a salary of up to £7,000 p.a. substantial benefits, including non-contributory Pension Plan and Life Insurance Cover, preferential Mortgage facilities and bonus plan will be provided.

Write with a full career resume to:

BOX NO. A.5294

Financial Times, 10 Cannon Street, EC4P 4BY

Fund Manager

A leading Accepting House wishes to recruit a Fund Manager for its expanding Pension Funds and Charities Department.

The successful candidate will have had at least five years' experience of managing such funds and will have the ability to get on well with people. He should have a university degree or professional qualification and can anticipate an attractive salary with the usual fringe benefits.

Please reply with full curriculum vitae to:

Box FT/365, c/o Hanway House,

Clark's Place, Bishopsgate, London EC2N 4BJ.

CRU

SALES DIRECTOR

Commodities Research Unit is a growing international consultancy organisation with offices in London and New York. It specialises in research and advisory work on all aspects of the production, consumption, stockpiling and pricing of primary raw materials. Much of the work is computer-based. A subsidiary company, Forex Research, is similarly engaged in the field of foreign exchange. Clients include most governments, international and private-sector institutions in the relevant areas. CRU is currently seeking a SALES DIRECTOR to join its London headquarters whose duties will be to propose, co-ordinate and, as required, to carry out a full programme for the promotion of CRU, its affiliate companies and their products outside North and South America.

The ideal applicant will be in his early mid-thirties, with solid experience of successful sales direction. In addition to drive and flair, he should be broadly familiar with the raw materials and foreign exchange sectors, and have some knowledge of computer operations. Fluency in one or two European languages would be an advantage. Above all, however, the successful candidate must have an interest in, and an ability to get along with people working at the highest levels of research and commercial operations. Remuneration £8,000 plus share incentive scheme.

Please telephone or submit C.V. to:
Mr. R. A. Perlman Managing Director,
Commodities Research Unit Ltd,
55 Gower Street, London WC1E 6HJ
Tel: 01-637 2886

N. M. Rothschild & Sons Limited

Vacancy in Valuations

We need someone with a thorough knowledge of the Stock Market and Exchange Control to assist in the production of Valuations for Client Portfolios through the medium of a Real-Time computer system. Apply in writing giving full details to:

The Staff Manager,
N. M. Rothschild & Sons Limited,
Rothschild House,
Whitgift Centre,
Croydon CR9 3PX

INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT AND TAX PLANNING

We are seeking an assistant to the Investment Director. Experience of fund management and dealing with clients is essential. Also required Tax Manager to deal with all aspects of personal taxation planning.

Preferred age under 40. Salaries negotiable around £5,000.

Applications in confidence to:

The Personnel Director,
NORTON WARBURG LTD,
103 CANNON STREET LONDON E.C.4.

APPOINTMENTS WANTED

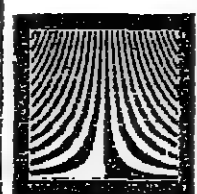
Ex public schoolboy aged 27

experienced in licensed and catering trade, and knowledgeable in general business to management level, seeks secure position with prospects. Write Box A.5286, Financial Times, 10, Cannon Street, EC4P 4BY.

BANK MANAGER, retired, 55, after 30 years' service, seeks position of interest in London or abroad. Not prepared to relocate. Write Box A.5286, Financial Times, 10, Cannon Street, EC4P 4BY.

PUBLIC NOTICES

EDMUND OF WATFORD, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.



The Technical Page

EDITED BY ARTHUR BENNETT AND TED SCHOETERS

DATA PROCESSING

No software required

INTEREST is growing in a new approach to computing with equipment that needs no "software" to operate. In the accepted sense of the term.

Adam, promoted by a California company, works in English using verbs and nouns and learns from its operator by a fast question-and-answer process. No professional programmer is needed to provide primary instruction to the equipment. These initial steps take about two days.

The next departure is to tell the unit what is the work it has to perform.

This can be payroll, stock control, invoicing or almost any other data-processing routine, and the unit will take about eight hours to learn all the details of one such job in any particular company. Thereafter, it is this significant—a system modification takes about one hour to carry out. This is in sharp contrast with current procedures.

Design of the computer is such that it learns the meaning of new words in terms of words it already understands. It comes with a vocabulary of 100 keywords and if a new word is fed into its processor via the keyboard, it will immediately ask for a definition—via a display. It already understands words like file or multiply and what to do when it "hears" them.

All this may seem a clumsy way to go about the process. But the developers point out that there is no need to change any company routine to fit Adam, just tell the machine what the procedure is and it will repeat it ad infinitum.

This Business Logical Machine is, in the words of its developers, an attempt to avoid the situation where the sale of increasingly expensive hardware will be hampered more and more because of the need for increasingly scarce, highly trained specialist programmers.

In several centres in Britain and the U.S., work is afoot to make a computer write error-free programs. But this is a time-consuming and expensive task.

Up to 32 discs are loaded in the magazine which moves along past a slot in the drive (rather like a slide-projector). The cartridges are inserted into the drive in any succession called for by the control program, processed, and then returned to the magazine.

Design of the latter guarantees absolute protection against any damage to the disc. If required, the whole unit can easily be removed. If the user needs a higher capacity, the magazine can be enlarged up to a capacity of about 50 floppy discs without any change to the hardware.

Average access time of this prototype is 3s (including the insertion of the cartridge into the drive). The time required for the cartridge to move from the first to the 32nd floppy disc is 2.5s.

BASF, Lady Lane, Haddesley, Suffolk IP7 8BQ (0473-38 2531).

FOR LOW and medium volume OCR applications coping with 30 documents a minute and feeding a variety of output devices, Ventek, Station House, Harrow Road, Wembley, Middx., HA9 6ER (01-903 6261), has introduced the CES 7100 document reader.

The unit, which has the ability to read OCR-A, OCR-B or E13B fonts, and to interface directly with Datapoint processors has an automatic document feed, accept, reject, sorting, and audit trial, and will feed data to magnetic tape and punched cards. With all options, cost is £5,000.

Made by TRW Datacom International, applications for the first time user to tailor the facilities to his own requirements. It will be available from January 1, 1976, and is seen by Abacus as filling a gap in the manufacturing systems currently available on the 2903. The package is aimed at the small and medium-sized manufacturing company.

It determines the future requirements of raw material, purchased parts, sub-assemblies and main assemblies, necessary to meet a finished product plan. For each part number, planned orders are calculated by a gross to net calculation, application of scrap allowance, lot sizes and off-setting by lead times, included in a facility permitting the correct sequence of revisions to forecast without the need to regenerate the whole plan.

Abacus, 48 Queen's Road, Coventry CV1 3EH (0203-58089).

Specifically designed for the ICL 2903 machine it will be programmed in RPG 2, to allow the first time user to tailor the facilities to his own requirements. It will be available from January 1, 1976, and is seen by Abacus as filling a gap in the manufacturing systems currently available on the 2903. The package is aimed at the small and medium-sized manufacturing company.

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It determines the future requirements of raw material, purchased parts, sub-assemblies and main assemblies, necessary to meet a finished product plan. For each part number, planned orders are calculated by a gross to net calculation, application of scrap allowance, lot sizes and off-setting by lead times, included in a facility permitting the correct sequence of revisions to forecast without the need to regenerate the whole plan.

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Britons reported safe in Lebanon

BRITISH nationals in Lebanon are safe and well, as is known, Mr. James Callaghan, Foreign Secretary, the Commons yesterday.

Mr. Callaghan said that according to the British Ambassador, there were no reports of any injured or killed British nationals there.

He confirmed that the Ambassador had advised all U.K. nationals whose presence was not needed, to leave while normal services were operating.

Mr. Philip Goodhart (C, Weymouth and Portland) asked whether it was right the Western Community to send a "stand completely while Beirut is blown to

Left fears weakening on U.K. energy seat

FINANCIAL TIMES REPORTER

FEARS THAT the Government is preparing to drop its insistence on separate British representation from other EEC countries at the world energy conference, to be held in Paris in December, were voiced by Left-wing Labour backbenchers in the Commons yesterday.

Mr. Dennis Skinner (Lab., Bolton) suggested that the Government was in the process of backing down, and the issue was taken up in more direct terms by Mr. Eric Heffer (Lab., Warrington), who pressed for a clear statement that there would be no compromise.

After referring to reports emanating from Paris, he urged Mr. James Callaghan, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, to say there would be a firm stand by the Government "and that we will have our own seat at that very important conference."

Mr. Callaghan's initial reaction was to refuse to comment on Press reports, except to say that he had made no approaches to

other Governments, but he went on to say: "If anyone has any proposals to put to us about that matter I shall, of course, consider them."

Mr. Reginald Maudling, then stressed that Britain had an interest both in North Sea oil and the cohesion of the EEC, and maintained that there should be the maximum effort to reconcile these differing British interests.

Mr. Callaghan answered that he did not know whether it was possible to reconcile them or not. He suggested that it was for Britain's EEC partners to come forward with proposals "which we would be glad to entertain and observe."

But so far as the future of the Community was concerned, he had seen it come through worse conflicts, when much stronger language had been used. "I don't think you should be too worried about that," he told Mr. Maudling.

In an earlier exchange, Mr. John Biffen (C, Oswestry) claimed that the last Conservative election manifesto had emphasised the importance of Britain retaining control over North Sea oil, and argued that the Foreign Secretary's attempt to secure legitimate national interests should command the support of both sides of the House.

Mr. Callaghan underlined the fact that there had been no attempt so far to secure control of British oil. "I think that should be made clear in fairness to our Community partners."

What was being discussed was the appropriate representation at the energy conference. It was a procedural question and the procedure had still to be settled.

Mr. Edward Taylor (C, Cardiff) warned that Britain's credibility would be destroyed if Mr. Callaghan were to emulate the old Duke of York and sell out after having first stood firm on the matter.

Government throws out Lords changes to Employment Bill

BY JUSTIN LONG, PARLIAMENTARY CORRESPONDENT

THE GOVERNMENT last night set about reversing major changes made by the Lords to the Employment Protection Bill.

Mr. James Callaghan, the Foreign and Commonwealth Secretary, said that the Government was "not prepared to accept the amendments made by the Lords."

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Linking law legislation

LEGISLATION is to be introduced by the Government to Britain to meet the demand of the proposed Directive on banking law, or authorisation of deposit institutions, Mr. Edmund Byrne, Minister of State, said yesterday.

Mr. Byrne said that the Government was "not prepared to accept the amendments made by the Lords."

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Lever in daily demand—MP

FINANCIAL TIMES REPORTER

Left-wing Labour MPs led the demands, arguing that it was wrong that the House should have no regular opportunity to publicly cross-examine Mr. Lever when the scope of the policy issues allocated to him by the Prime Minister made him the second most important member of the Government.

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Tories win vote for pension funds concession

Land Bill defeats climb to 13 as Peers sit through night

BY JOHN HUNT

THE GOVERNMENT suffered four more defeats on the Commons Land Bill in the early hours of yesterday morning as the House of Lords held a marathon all-night sitting to complete the committee stage of the legislation.

The most important Conservative victory came when the House passed an amendment giving additional protection to pension funds which own development land.

The purpose of the Bill is to empower local authorities to take all development land into public ownership, but it gives a concession to churches and charities by stipulating that any land owned by them on September 12, 1974, the day the White Paper was published, is exempt from takeover.

The Conservative amendment, passed by a majority of 26, (66-40) extends this concession to pension funds.

For the Opposition, Baroness Young argued that unless this protection were given, the lands held by pension funds at that date would drop in value, as they might be subject to takeover when the Bill becomes law. She pointed out that pension funds invest heavily in property and the results of these investments decided the incomes on which millions of people would retire.

"We are talking about enormous numbers—about 12m. people in occupational pension funds and the total could be as high as 24m," she said.

The House rose at 7.51 a.m. after a sitting of 16 hours 42 minutes, the longest in the House since the battle over the Industrial Relations Act in May 1971. During the five-day committee stage, peers defeated the Govern-



The Lord Chancellor, Lord Elwyn-Jones, paid tribute to Baroness Young (left), Under-Secretary for the Environment, and Baroness Young, the Conservative front bench spokesman, for the way they had conducted the all-night battle. "Peers must be filled with admiration for the two baronesses. They have distinguished themselves throughout this debate, which is very appropriate in International Women's Year," he said.

a disposal notification area for a major development to take place, then any houseowner living within that area must notify the council when he is intending to sell his house. The Government concession removes that obligation and makes it optional in the case of the owner of a house and up to one acre.

Another Tory amendment, passed by a majority of 29, (68-40), makes it obligatory, instead of optional, for the Environment Secretary to set up a hard-ship tribunal to investigate cases where people claim hardship when they receive payment for their property based only on its current use value.

By a majority of 23 (68-45), a Conservative amendment was passed stipulating that a local authority must carry out "adequate public participation" before declaring a disposal notification area.

Another successful amendment extended the rights of a houseowner to issue a blight notice and claim compensation on the grounds that his property was adversely affected by local development plans. As it stood, a blight notice could only be issued on property valued up to £2,500. The amendment removes this upper limit altogether.

Royal Mile restoration

PROPOSALS for the designation of Edinburgh's Royal Mile and adjacent streets as of special architectural or historic interest to be preserved or enhanced, are being formulated by Edinburgh District Council, Lord Kirkhill, a Government spokesman, said in the Lords yesterday.

Government financial help had already been given to various restoration and improvement projects in the area, he added.

Lord Alport had urged Government assistance to prevent further deterioration into slum conditions in the Royal Mile.

Drivers' hours regulations

POWER for the Environment Secretary to make regulations implementing EEC regulations on drivers' hours and records, is contained in a designation order laid before Parliament yesterday.

Ways of deferring application of the regulations to U.K. internal traffic beyond January 1 next year are still being discussed by the Government and the European Commission.

Pressure switches to oil Bill

CONSERVATIVE peers kept up their pressure on the Commons last night by inflicting two big defeats on the Government during the report stage of the Petroleum and Submarine Pipe-lines Bill.

By a majority of 55 (120-62) and against strenuous objections from Lord Balogh, Minister of State for Energy, they passed an amendment removing the provision that two civil servants should serve on the Board of the British National Oil Corporation. Then, by a majority of 39 (96-57), they passed an amendment stating that BNOC can only pay sums of money out from its accounts with the authority of the Treasury, not that of Mr. Anthony Wedgwood Benn, the Energy Secretary.

On the first amendment, Lord Campbell of Croft, for the Conservatives, declared: "This appointment of civil servants is something quite new and has never been required in other public corporations or nationalised bodies."

He maintained that the civil servants on the Board would be in an invidious and anomalous position as they would learn confidential information about the company which were competing with BNOC.

This would lead to the view that BNOC had an unfair advantage over its competitors.

Replying for the Government, Lord Balogh objected that the BNOC's activity on expenditure would be subject—just like an under-estimation of the nature of civil servants. I am very astonished at what has been said.

"I have been known at times as one who is not a total admirer of our Civil Service. But to suggest that senior civil servants could not carry two loyalties with integrity is absurd. They would be able to sort out what is their duty."

Moving the second amendment for the Conservatives Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal said its purpose was to ensure that there would be Treasury control over the large funds accumulated "in what we have accustomed ourselves to call the oil industry slush fund."

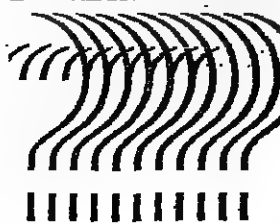
Lord Balogh objected that the amendment was not necessary as BNOC's activity on expenditure would be subject—just like an under-estimation of the nature of civil servants. I am very astonished at what has been said.

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Insurance Bill date change bid

By Stewart Fleming

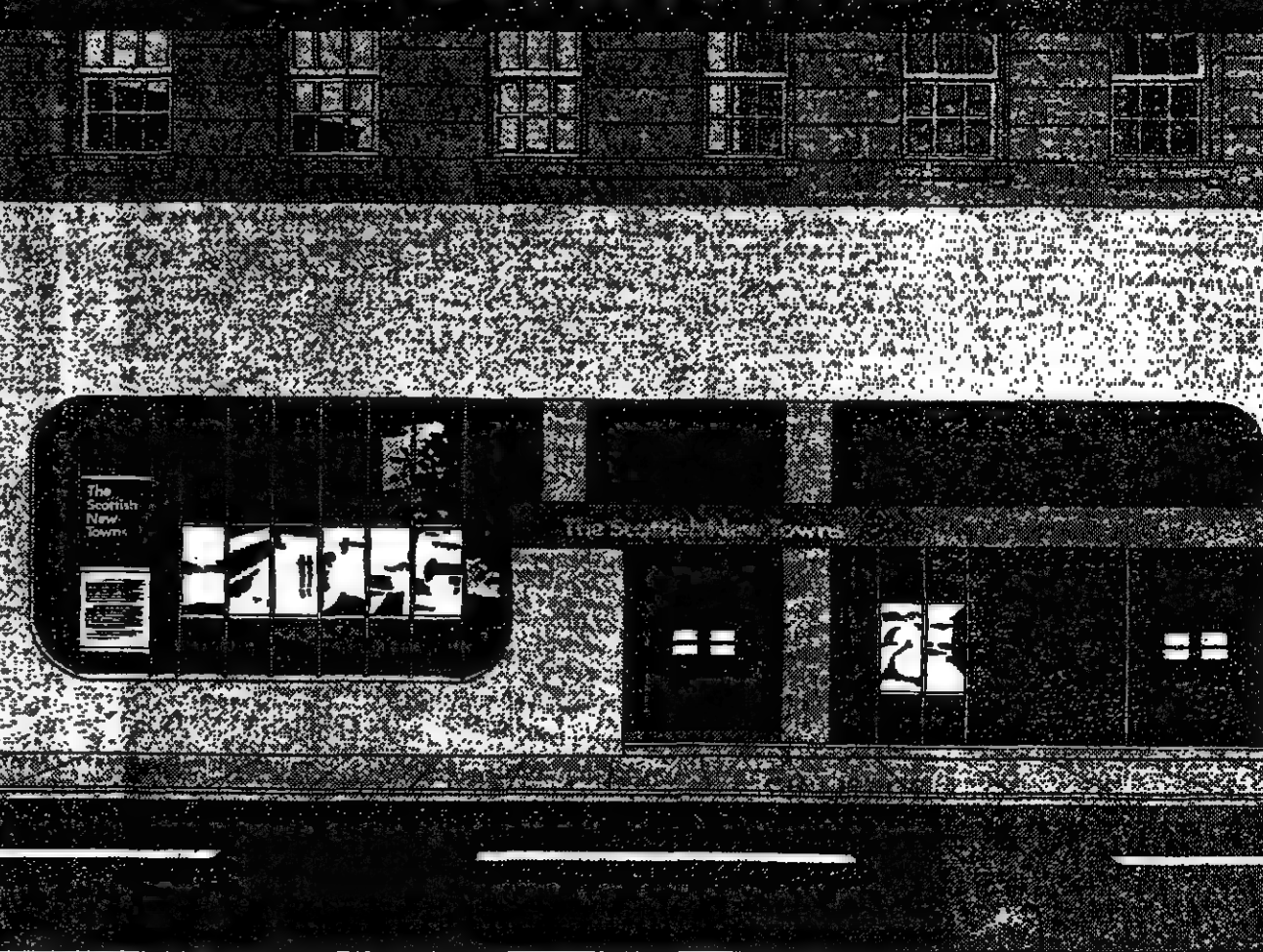
A PROPOSAL that the Policyholders' Protection Bill should date from June 1, 1974, is expected to be discussed as the Bill reaches its final stages in the Commons to-day.

Mr. David Jackson, of the Policyholders' Protection Committee said yesterday that the effect of an amendment tabled by Mr. Robert Taylor (C, Croydon NW) would be to bring the Bill into force on January 1, 1974, instead of January 1, 1975.

The Bill is designed to protect the policyholders of insurance companies which are in financial difficulties by providing, in general, benefits of 50 per cent. of their full entitlement. If necessary, the Bill proposes that there should be a levy on the insurance industry to provide funds to meet the minimum level of benefits proposed in the Bill.

Because of the date from which the Bill is effective—October 29, 1974—Nations, which went into liquidation earlier last year, is excluded.

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LABOUR NEWS

Shipbuilding wages rise by nearly 34%

BY OUR LABOUR STAFF

WEEKLY earnings in Britain's shipbuilding industry rose by nearly 34 per cent. in the year to June, according to a survey published today by the Department of Employment.

Shipbuilding and ship repair workers raised their pay packets from £45.89 to £61.44 on average a week, including overtime earnings.

The biggest rises—about 38 per cent. over the year—went to workers on payment-by-results schemes.

Timeworkers' earnings increased by an average 21.8 per

cent, with labourers greatly narrowing the differential with skilled men.

In engineering and chemical manufacture, average weekly earnings rose much less steeply—by 20.1 and 21.7 per cent., respectively.

Earnings in engineering reached an average £54.33 a week and in chemical manu-

Department of Employment Gazette and are part of regular annual or bi-annual series.

Over time earnings in shipbuilding and engineering will be further enhanced from next month and again from February when two further instalments of the last national agreement on basic rates come into effect.

Since the latest Department of Employment survey—and just before the £6 limit came into force—chemical workers have negotiated basic rate rises of 23 to 26 per cent.

Twentieth union group to visit Brussels

By Our Labour Correspondent

A DELEGATION of Scottish TUC officials will visit the Common Market headquarters in Brussels next week—the last of 20 groups of senior British trade union leaders to be invited to see how the EEC works.

The trips, obviously designed in part to win over some of the trade union opponents of the Common Market, are arranged by the British section of the European League for Economic Co-operation, which receives its finance from business and commercial interests as well as a grant from the Foreign Office.

The last group to go was the six-member executive of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers.

If the trip was designed to sway union officials in favour of the EEC, it certainly had little influence on Mr. Bob Wright, an AUEW executive member and one of the strongest opponents of the Common Market. He said yesterday that the visit had been useful but would not change his view.

TUC seeks import curbs to protect key industries

BY JOHN ELLIOTT, LABOUR EDITOR

A NINE-POINT plan for the introduction of import controls to protect key industries as part of the Government's proposed new industrial strategy was drawn up by the TUC yesterday.

In a 25-page document which the TUC will present to the Prime Minister at talks in Downing Street to-night, union leaders say that viable medium-term industries must not be allowed to disappear as a result of short-term foreign import competition.

"It is essential to recognise the link between the short-term problems facing British industry and the creation of an effective industrial strategy," says the TUC.

Launching the proposals yesterday after they had been approved by the TUC general council at its monthly meeting, Mr. Len Murray, TUC general secretary said: "This is not a short-term panic measure but part of a well thought out industrial strategy."

"It is concerned with the levels of unemployment and general economic performance as well as maintaining Britain's industrial base."

"We know and accept that there will be changes in the pattern of industry and that there will be some growth of imports from developing countries. But this must take place with a proper thought out policy as part of a general approach to the regeneration of British industry."

The nine points are:

1—With other industrial countries, the Government should "fundamentally modify its free trade philosophy on trade and follow a co-ordinated trade and industry strategy designed to prevent the further erosion of the U.K. manufacturing industry."

2—The Government should introduce temporary quotas

restraints to prevent any further increase of "sensitive goods" such as motor cars and their components, electronic goods, television tubes, textiles, clothing and footwear.

3—Using its role as both a purchaser of goods and a supplier of credit, the Government should stop public money being spent on imports unless it has "clear evidence of the lack of a satisfactory alternative U.K. made product."

4—The Government should negotiate binding bilateral trade agreements with "major suppliers of sensitive goods" which would aim at reducing barriers to U.K. exports as well as curbing its imports.

5—GATT safeguard procedures should be amended to allow selective quota restraints by country as well as by products when "disruption of a home industry is threatened."

6—The Government should negotiate with major overseas suppliers of textiles and clothing with the aim of reducing by 10 to 20 per cent. the take-up of quotas agreed under the "multi-fibre arrangement."

7—The Government should be willing to take action, including using an import duty scheme, to prevent a pre-emptive increase in imports in conjunction with the imposition of a five quota controls.

8—The Department of Trade should make "more vigorous use" of the three-month provisional duty provisions against dumping and should maintain close contact with dumping industries.

9—Other measures, such as Temporary Employment Subsidy, should be extended to help industries which, for example, are having to deal with a result of import competition.

The TUC general council yesterday complained to Government that cuts in spending could lead to a decline in educational standards. It urged Ministers to reverse plans to cut education expenditure. It also confirmed the setting up of a TUC equal rights committee to cover race relations, women's rights, in line with recommendations of its general purposes committee.

Fewer went on strike last month

By Our Labour Staff

BRITAIN enjoyed last month one of its most strike-free months for years. In terms of the number of workers involved, it was the best month since December, 1971, with only 53,000 men and women out in protest over pay and conditions.

The month's low figure may be due in part to the imposition of the 55 pay limit, which has been little challenged by the shop floor so far. September is also generally a quiet month for pay negotiations.

About 118 disputes broke out last month, the fewest for any month this year, making it the best September for at least five years.

About 372,000 working days were lost, the lowest figure since January, according to statistics published today in the Department of Employment's October Gazette.

So far this year, there have been 1,882 strikes compared with 2,099 between January and September last year.

ACTT scores victory

BY OUR LABOUR REPORTER

THE 15,700-member Association of Cinematograph, Television and Allied Technicians has scored a minor victory over the Transport and General Workers, Britain's largest union, in a battle over representation rights at Kodak.

A TUC disputes committee has decided that the TGWU should agree to share representation rights at company level with ACTT and that it should drop its objections to the smaller union having plant level representation rights at the Kodak factories at Harrow and Stevenage.

The award is only the latest chapter in a prolonged saga at Kodak which has involved industrial action by TUC unions, led by ACTT, in support of demands for recognition by the company. This later became an inter-union row when the TGWU, which had only a handful of Kodak members, merged with the company union, the Union of Kodak Workers, and absorbed its 6,500 members.

The merger increased ACTT, which had gained only limited

recognition from the company, but the union backed down from a direct challenge to their merger through the TUC's anti-poaching rules.

If it had done so, it is doubtful whether it could have forced a break-up of the merger in the light of the High Court judgment this week which said that the TUC's rules did not cover union merger situations.

The judgment concerned a similar row involving a link-up between the Association of Professional Executive, Clerical and Computer Staffs and an insurance company's staff association.

The TGWU has sole negotiating rights at Kodak and told the TUC Committee that it had agreed in principle to joint representation with ACTT. It challenged ACTT's right to plant level representation rights, however, claiming that ACTT's membership was lower than stated.

More safety information planned for workers

BY OUR LABOUR STAFF

PROPOSALS to increase the amount of information employers give their workers about their welfare at work have been issued by the Health and Safety Commission.

A consultative document circulated to both sides of industry also suggests new ways of passing on the information.

The present systems, except in mining and quarrying, are far from adequate and rely heavily on placards fixed to walls at

factory entrances, according to the paper.

The basic requirements of the regulations proposed are that employers shall display a notice specifying their arrangements for advising employees, shall give details on responsibility for inspection of the workplace and of the local employment medical advisory service, and shall inform employees on risks involved in their jobs and precautions necessary to secure health and safety.

NUBE has been seeking a

profit sharing scheme with the Midland and also with Lloyds Bank since 1973, when, together with the respective staff associations, it concluded profit sharing arrangements for staff in the National Westminster and Barclays banks.

It hopes that a test case at the Central Arbitration Committee may force the Midland to concede a similar agreement and that this in turn will influence Lloyds to follow suit.

The initial breakthrough on profit-sharing schemes in banking came in 1973 when, at a time when banks were embarrassed by huge profits, first National Westminster and then Barclays conceded schemes.

Under the NatWest scheme, staff share in profits from a pool representing 3 per cent. of the first £100m annual profit after tax and 5 per cent. of any profit over £100m. Each employee receives one "share" of the pool for every £500 of his annual salary up to a maximum of 12 shares.

When the NatWest scheme was introduced in 1974—at the end of the Conservative Government's wage restraint policy—NatWest staff shared £7.5m,

which was worth £36 a share. Last year's figures brought a total of £42m, worth £15 a share.

Barclays' scheme involves 4 per cent. of consolidated profits before tax, but less if profits dip below 15 per cent. of the company's issued share capital.

Last year it was worth a total of nearly £8m, which represented a 44 per cent. salary increase for all employees.

A separate share option scheme operates for senior employees and directors.

Williams and Glynn, where NUBE has sole negotiating rights, also conceded profit sharing arrangements last year. They involve 3.5 per cent. of the previous year's profits paid as a flat rate to employees earning less than £1,000 a year and as a percentage salary increase for the higher paid.

Against this background, NUBE hopes to persuade the Central Arbitration Committee that the Midland is not paying salary levels generally accepted in the banking industry and will urge it to use a clause in the proposed legislation to force Midland to agree to profit sharing.

Multi-nationals attacked

BY OUR LABOUR STAFF

MULTI-NATIONAL companies are a threat to governments and trade unions, says Mr. Clive Jenkins, general secretary of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs.

He told a London conference yesterday on Britain's industrial future that it was estimated that by 1985 about 300 multi-nationals would control 75 per cent. of the productive assets of the Western world.

Trade unions were setting up international links in reply. In

the chemical industry, for instance, unions were building data banks which include information about plant structures, production methods and managers' backgrounds.

"Fundamentally, any challenge to the multi-national is full of closure of information, to be the barrier of secrecy which too long been the most powerful weapon in their hands," Jenkins said.

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5 p.m.



7 p.m.



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In real terms we've had a noticeable increase in sales. Over the next few weeks we'll be talking about posters for next year.

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...written at
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...We probably
...the past years
...But then again
...never been a

هكذا من الأصل

The Marketing Scene

هنا من العمل

Airbus is Proctors

ADVERTISING for the European Airbus, from which the Government withdrew British participation, is to be handled in much of the world by a U.K. agency, Gordon Procter and Partners, London. Procter and Partners, who are also the U.S. associate agency Wilson Haight and Welch, have been appointed by Airbus Industrie of Toulouse to create advertising from January 1 for 12 countries.

The budget is likely to be around \$11m. Wilson Haight will look after the American continent and Procter, the rest of the world. A joint creative approach is being formulated by the two agencies. Around 20 Airbus sales are already being ordered.

THE Location of Offices Bureau switched its advertising account, worth around \$65,000, from RMP to Foster Turner and Watson.

PETER MAYLE, ex-PKL, is now DO, before going to the U.S. to make a fortune as an author. He is back writing ads — Streetlife, Streetlife is a new monthly magazine aimed at more intelligent youth market. It aims to base its market on the 70,000 readers who have been taking the top musical acts in the last two years, plus King Stone buyers deterred by American bias.

Streetlife is getting a \$45,000 advertising launch starting this week with a heavy radio campaign. Mayle, who is acting as consultant to the paper, has sent the copy.

THIS has been a good week for DFS Dorland Fortune, the 10-wide advertising group. It has Dorlands as its U.K. agency. The major operation, ser. Fitzgerald, Samole of New York, has won the Toyota ad in the U.S., which is a \$20m. In South Africa, Wood Advertising has been won by Barlow Appliances, Kelvinator and Sunbeam for \$175,000, and the firm that has won the Lindt and Calum Bower.

The Swedish DDF agency has won AB Factum-Bulker and Italian branch is working on a children's encyclopaedia, the Fabbril. Nigel Seeley is executive of the internal network.

ADVERTISING RESEARCH

The pressures mount for reform

BY ROBERT JONES AND ROBERT SANDERS, SOASE MASSIMI POL LIT

THE advertising world is slowly becoming aware of pressures for change in the current structure of television, newspaper and magazine audience research which obviously greatly influences a large part of the \$800m. spent annually on media advertising. Such research forms the basis for advertisers and agencies to plan and buy their media schedules and for media owners to sell them. But now financial pressure, sharper sectional self-interest and the sheer need for change are coming together to force a reappraisal as the major research contracts come up for renewal.

At present the Press, posters, television and radio each has its own controlling committee made up of representatives from advertisers, advertising agencies, and the media. They produce information almost exclusively about their own medium, there is very little useful overlapping, and it's all "head counting" — how many people of different age or social groups are in the audience. There is no attempt to probe the strengths of advertising to "communicate" in a particular medium.

As a result the major research we have is good — technically the envy of the world — but understandably, such a system has encouraged almost total emphasis on head counting. The individual media have kept themselves to themselves and innovation in output has been minimal.

To examine the current system and to see whether any consensus for change was possible, 160 experts recently met in Cambridge at a Conference organised by Admap. Financing, control and content were all on the agenda. A major consideration was that, in addition to industry research, there are a large number of commercial surveys (the Target Group Index and Television Consumer Audit, for example) collecting product data as well as some media information.

In total it is estimated that something like three quarters of a million interviews are carried out a year, plus a similar number by the BBC, and there are more than 45,000 members of panels who remain



Robert Sanders (left) and Robert Jones with some of the research data which floods media men's desks.

supply information on what they view or buy. Is this all excessive and wasteful? Couldn't some of the interviews be put together to show cost savings in these difficult times?

Attitudes to the present state of media research vary considerably. Among the advertisers and agencies, who can afford to take a broader view of their media, there are many shades of thought. At one end there has been a move, outlined as far back as 1967 by the IPA, to link all the existing pieces together into a comprehensive giant jigsaw. This has now been considerably modified and for the time being no firm proposal seems likely. However, the idea of integration is one which is attractive but which doesn't seem to work out too well in practice.

At the other end a lot of people want things to remain as they are and always have been. Results are consistent and understood, it is argued, and they help to show cost savings in these difficult times.

At a time when it is both fashionable and right for the media buyer to take a particularly hard-nosed stance, it is perhaps too easy for him to accept rather than question the comfort of the status quo. Unfortunately the "accepted" measurements are not always all they seem to be. Many people feel that numbers have become an obsession and often obscure both their real meaning and their deficiencies.

Among the media the television companies, who foot the major part of the \$500,000 plus annual television research bill, are already looking round for and each was given a Task Force — for example, one group looked at corporate objectives, another covered diversification, and there were two on communications (internal and external). The 60 people involved produced 400 pages of documentation.

Thirty of the recommendations being implemented could roughly be classified as internal — they range from a "lunch facility for staff" through hand-held hair dryers for the girls who get their hair wet on their travels, to annual meetings between staff and the trust fund trustees and regular open meetings between staff and management. There are also schemes for a personal tax and mortgage advice service and the appointment of an ombudsman.

What might be called the external relations side includes action to concentrate the reception services, a centre for messages if people are not in their offices, and a different system for conference rooms. There are also projects to widen the scope of documents for promotion pieces, review charges to clients for ancillary services, and to invite clients to see the agency show reel.

Longer-term activities embrace preparation for the times when the basis for agency payment changes, setting up a group to investigate diversification (although it would still be in the scope of advertising), and a search for a way to handle smaller accounts.

The reasons for rejecting ideas are often on the basis of cost. An increase of the value of luncheon vouchers was put down because of the tax situation. A staff shop was cut not only on a cost basis but also because of inability to buy at competitive prices, and a bank of creative ideas was rejected partly on the grounds that it might lead to second-hand thought. "Somebody had to be joking" with the idea of buying a shoe polisher at £35.

At a time when most agencies are looking for economies in every area Y and R's exercise might look expensive. But Joe De Deo says it is all within budgets. And it is a forward look.

economies and are testing a different head-counting technique with the BBC, who up to parthe control (the media, the new have kept from commercial interests. Surprisingly seen the dangers in the U.S. the RTV companies do not seem to have considered either advertisers or agencies, many of whom have strong beliefs about television research, and it would be a pity if this move heralded any breaking down of the tripartite system.

The major influence on change is obviously going to be cost. A London Business School mathematical model showed how these will increase out of proportion to advertising revenue over the next few years. Against this background none disputed that the first need is to ensure that the industry continues to have enough data to maintain a competitive market place. The real question is in agreeing what is "enough". Is there too much repetitive information which makes wasteful demands on the industry's finances and channels its energies too narrowly? For example, in television audience research figures have been collected on every minute of transmission, give or take a strike or two, since it started nearly 20 years ago. And the National Research survey, the Press equivalent, has been going even longer in fundamentally the same continuous form. Even the Press themselves who pay for it, must be wondering if its limitations aren't a bit self-defeating to their willing efforts.

Out of the conference came a very much clearer understanding of the dangers and opportunities. What may appear to be short-term issues of cost will have long-term implications, for what is given up now will not return later. It is for this reason that the sharpest focus for attention in the television audience research (JICTAR) which ended in 1977. Advertisers want to retain minute by minute audience figures. They need to assess the value they are getting from the individual television companies regionally. We may see a sharp difference of opinion between the different interests, and television advertisers would do well to ensure they keep up with the discussion over the next few months.

Perhaps the least satisfactory part of the Admap Conference was its concentration on the negative aspects of change. In accepting economies are there not opportunities to lay the foundations for positive change by reappraising the situation of industry research, while retaining many of its better aspects?

For example we need to retain and improve our system of tripartite control (the media, the advertiser, the agency). We have seen the dangers in the U.S. where law suits against commercial research companies have followed publication of readership figures, where the whole industry has come into disrepute and there has been movement towards more tripartite control.

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No forum

Unfortunately though, the present system of unco-ordinated independent committees for each medium does perpetuate and emphasise the many different interests which have grown up over time and it is remarkable that there is even now no official forum where Press and television researchers meet together. Derek Bloom of Beechams touched on the need for an equivalent of the American Advertising Research Foundation, while the IPA's recently revised paper on integration of media and product research expresses the need for the sponsors of each service to meet together.

It was disappointing, too, that the old barriers between media (headcounting) research and advertising (communication) research are still as apparent as ever. To make any headway, advertising agencies and media must learn more about the different communication abilities of different media and devise a better understanding of their capabilities. It may be, for example, that the effect of television can be destructive to some Press treatments for the same brand and vice versa, but we don't know and never will while the media stands rigidly apart.

Alan Smith of IPC Magazines' efforts to engage in this were timely. It is an area where real and useful progress could be made, but it is largely foreign to the agency media director and the media salesman. Advertiser pressure might well be useful here.

Perpetuating the present structure can only stifle innovation for a long time to come. What sort of change takes place will depend on the interest and involvement of the advertisers who have grown in strength and understanding of the media and advertising research world over the last few years. Unfortunately most of them are probably not aware of these changes, or their wide ranging implications, for very few took three days out in Cambridge this month. But they are in an important position to influence developments. Let us hope they take the opportunity.

Fine Fare welcome for new products

BY ANTHONY THORNCROFT, MARKETING EDITOR

ONE OF the oddest features of the current crisis is that it does not seem to have hit new product development too badly. Of course some of the brands now appearing on the market were planned up to two years ago when prospects were brighter but there was no need for their developers to persevere with them.

It may be that new products were seen as one way of avoiding the limitation on profit margins imposed on existing grocery lines: it may be that companies wanted an occupation for their marketing teams while current products were limping along with reduced advertising budgets; it may be that some manufacturers are looking towards the upturn, when fully tested new brands might be expected to score over the defeatist caution of competitors.

Peter Kraushaar, who monitors new product launches for the marketing monthly Mintel, can produce an extensive list: Borsari Cubes, Heinz Noodle Doodles spaghetti shapes, Jamsica Ginger Creams from United Biscuits, Baby Ribena and Cider Shandy from Beechams, Fudge Mix and Two Shakes Mix from Kellogg's, Embassy American, both regular and king size, and Kenilworth Club Mild, Dixcel Menthol Tissues from British Tissues, and Sylphs, a new sanitary towel from Kimberley Clark.

Gordon Douglas, who heads Precight, the Lintas subsidiary which specialises in new product development, adds to this outpouring. This week two of its developments, the Cavendish Cape range of South African cherries and Bird's Eye Marrow, fat peas, are in the shops, and in the past few months Precight has worked on Bower Scott's Wet Wipes, Walls new sausage lines, Masters Choice, Hervy sausages and Bacon sausages, and the Bird's Eye China Dragon Frozen Chinese foods, now on test.

Along with the products comes news of another method of evaluating brands at an early stage in their development to see whether they are worth the sort of a full scale launch. Fine Fare is willing to "sell" shelf space in some of its stores for manufacturers to test new lines. The cost is, on average, a derisory £3 per store per week, which means, in effect, that Fine Fare is losing on the deal. But the big multiple group, with 850 retail outlets, regards it as part of its job to encourage the development of new brands.

Marketing manager Iain Wolsey, who runs the operation, reckons that there is little sell their brands.

Store tests

To these traditional testing methods Fine Fare has added store tests. It is not new — Nielsen can offer similar facilities in a range of shops — but it is very attractive to manufacturers in that their brands get their initial exposure in one of the most important multiple chains in the U.K. But, as Wolsey is quick to point out, having a product accepted for a store test is no guarantee at all that Fine Fare will take it for regular stocking if it is a success. The buying department keeps a completely open mind.

Fine Fare has been testing new brands for about a year, following an earlier pilot with Lever Bros' Drive. Among the manufacturers that have taken advantage of the service are Beechams, with Crunchy Buns and Midos Bath Additive, Reckitt and Colman with Fabaun, a spray starch; and Lever's again with Sunlight lemon liquid. All these products have gone on to commercial success.

So far the stores used, which average between ten and twenty in each test, are located in the south and Midlands, but Fine Fare is now extending the coverage so that clients can evaluate different areas of the country. Fine Fare gives the manufacturers the shelf space and then lets them get on with it, although it likes the products to be sold at a reasonable price with a reasonable profit rather than on excessive special offer. Fine Fare can afford to be selective in the products it accepts for testing. Apart from wanting to improve the success rate of new products it also sees the service as helping it in its buying decisions on new products — too often manufacturers over-reckon that there is little sell their brands.

All change at Y & R

BY PAMELA JUDGE

FIFTY-EIGHT suggestions for improving agency Young and Rubicam, that came up through the grass roots are now being put into effect by the management; a further 14 have been approved in principle (but need time to develop); six require more study and nine were rejected.

This upsurge is not a result of wild demands for workers' participation, but comes from a series of Task Forces initiated by Joe De Deo when he took over as head of the London end of Y and R 13 months ago. Everybody was asked to send in their ideas — the intention being "To take a long, hard look at ourselves, to sort out what we were doing right from what we could do better, and to do something about the latter."

Nine broad subjects of interest were sorted out from the input and each was given a Task Force — for example, one group looked at corporate objectives, another covered diversification, and there were two on communications (internal and external). The 60 people involved produced 400 pages of documentation.

Thirty of the recommendations being implemented could roughly be classified as internal — they range from a "lunch facility for staff" through hand-held hair dryers for the girls who get their hair wet on their travels, to annual meetings between staff and the trust fund trustees and regular open meetings between staff and management. There are also schemes for a personal tax and mortgage advice service and the appointment of an ombudsman.

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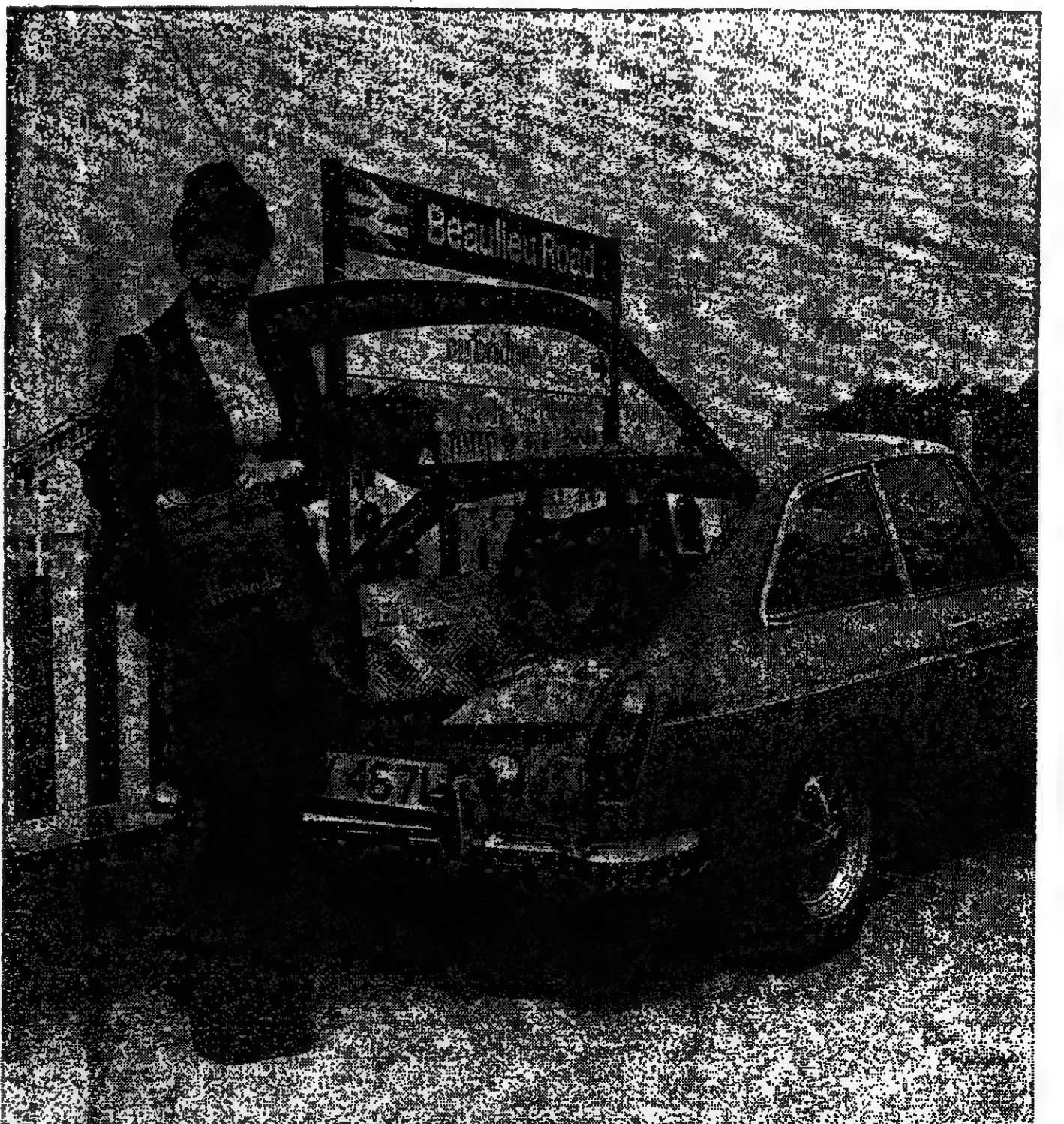
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The future of Chrysler

THE FINANCIAL position in Chrysler's U.K. subsidiary has been deteriorating for some time and doubts about its future have been openly expressed by the management of the parent company in the U.S. With employment of 25,000 and exports of £100m a year, the demise of Chrysler U.K. would be a very serious blow for the country. When Chrysler, with the Government's encouragement, took over control of the old Rover company in 1967, there were hopes that the injection of American management and finance would restore what had at one time been a highly successful business. But whether through their own mistakes or the intractable nature of the problem, the Americans could never achieve the profitability or the market share which they needed: labour relations have been consistently bad. It seems that only Government assistance can ensure the survival of Chrysler U.K. in anything like its present form.

Rationalisation

In France, when Citroën found itself in similar difficulty, the Government intervened to bring about a restructuring of the industry. The car side of the company is to go to Peugeot and the truck side to Renault, and public funds have been made available on a substantial scale. No such solution is feasible in the U.K. Huge sums have been committed for the rehabilitation of British Leyland: the new management has just embarked on a programme of internal rationalisation which will take several years to complete. Any suggestion that the operations of Chrysler U.K. should be combined with those of British Leyland to form an even bigger British-owned motor company should be dismissed at once: to combine two weak companies is a recipe for disaster.

One alternative is to prop up Chrysler U.K. as it is, perhaps through a joint venture between the Government and the American parent. The scale of assistance would have to be considerable and the fundamental question is whether the Government would be justified in devoting even more public funds to this industry. Does the

An aid strategy without money

THE GOVERNMENT'S new White Paper on aid—the first for eight years—is a sensible if modest document. By its own admission, it is not about aid targets in money terms: there are no rash promises but only an outline of how available funds are deployed and will be deployed in the future. Its insistence on giving priority to the world's poorest people here all the hallmarks of Mrs. Judith Hart, who was Minister for Overseas Development until June, by which time the White Paper was almost complete. But the acknowledgment of the role of private industry and of political and commercial factors suggests that her successor, Mr. Reg Prentice, has not been entirely without influence.

Poorest

British aid strategy, it says, now has three main aims. The first, which concerns bilateral aid, is to give increasing emphasis to the world's poorest countries, especially those among them which have been most seriously affected by the rise in the price of oil and other commodities. The second is to promote situations in which British concessional aid funds can stimulate matching contributions from other governments and to encourage the deployment of such multilateral aid to the countries with the lowest per capita income, defined as under \$200 a year. The third is to seek to channel more bilateral British aid to the poorest people within the poorest countries. Since the majority of these people live outside the towns this means giving special attention to rural development.

It is this third aim which is the most welcome, for in practice it seeks to do two things at once. One of the biggest problems of the poorest countries is their inability to feed themselves, even when the climatic conditions are not basic-

Anthony Harris analyses the forbidding equation in our growing public sector borrowing requirement

The obstinate deficit: a cash flow problem

MR. DENIS HEALEY's apparently complacent revelation at the Mansion House two weeks ago that the public sector borrowing requirement would probably be still larger next year than this, and that only subsequently would it be possible to start reducing it, has very properly undermined the confidence of the gilt market. To finance a very heavy debt in a single year of slump is a manageable problem: provided it can be expected both that the rate of inflation will come down, and that the market will not be flooded indefinitely with further official offerings, gilts can be an attractive investment.

However, the prospect of a borrowing requirement amounting to more than a tenth of national income for year after year alters the whole prospect. The market does not believe that such amounts can be absorbed; therefore the Government deficit cannot be financed in a non-inflationary way; and therefore there is not even the hope that inflation will abate. The scale of the deficit appears to make the inflation objectives unachievable. The result is that since the Chancellor's speech the market in Government stock has been largely stagnant, while the equity market, between the blows dealt by the Slater Walker affair, has been rising for the worst of possible reasons: renewed fear of accelerating inflation.

While the market is undoubtedly right to view the problem as a forbidding one, one City reaction has been mistaken: the Chancellor did not speak as he did out of complacency, but out of sheer worry.

A Treasury exercise

What has rattled him is the fact that the figures he gave for the borrowing requirement are not the result of an obstinate determination to go on spending in order to limit the rise of unemployment. On the contrary, they are the result of a Treasury exercise which appears to have shown that the borrowing requirement will tend to rise in spite of a determined and painful attempt to check public spending, even on cautiously favourable assumptions about a revival in the economy. Indeed, it is not very difficult to work out projections which show that the borrowing requirement is likely to remain at about its present level not only next year, but the year after; moreover, it will take either ferocious cuts in public spending, or a very buoyant rise in revenues, to prevent the deficit and the borrowing requirement becoming still larger. On the assumption that monetary policy demands that most of the deficit be financed

by long-term borrowing at fixed interest, the problem looks very nearly insoluble.

The main purpose of this analysis is to draw attention to the role of debt servicing costs in this forbidding equation; but it is first worth remembering how we got into this mess.

There is both a recent and a longer-term cause for the disarray of Britain's public finances. The long-term cause is the sheer size of the public sector as a proportion of national product. Since Mr. Roy Jenkins achieved, for a single year, the feat of repaying a small amount of the national debt, the public sector's underlying commitments have been increased by such steps as the raising of the school leaving age, successive and massive increases in the real value of retirement pensions (under both main political parties) and finally their indexation in real terms, a subsidy for private sector rents and various smaller but cumulatively important extensions of welfare. After only five years, the tax rates which would be required to repeat Mr. Jenkins' achievement are almost unthinkable.

As Mr. Healey pointed out to the Labour Party's conference, these additions to the "social wage" have had to mean a very large increase in the tax burden on ordinary working people; and this has had a second, insidious effect on public finance.

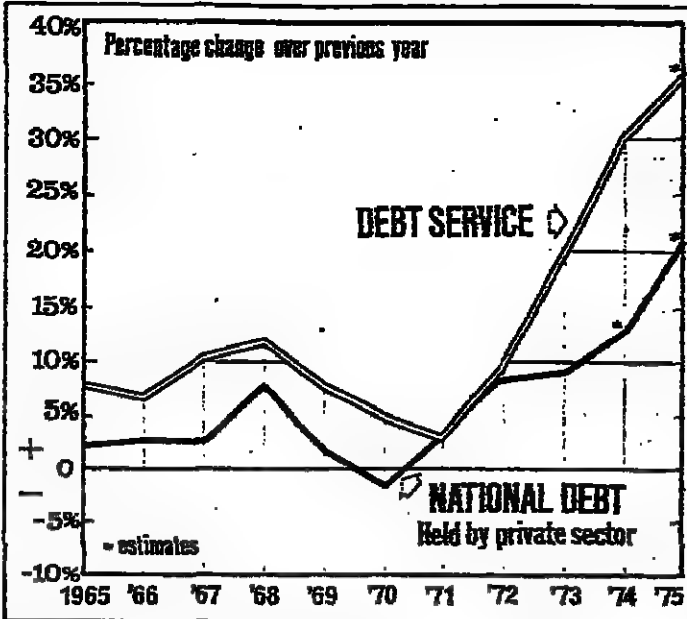
For many years Chancellors have relied on the buoyancy of the revenue against rising incomes—"fiscal drag"—to do two jobs for them by stealth: to increase the effective tax burden on the whole economy without actually raising the rates; and to impose extra restraint on the economy should inflation accelerate. However, fiscal drag relies basically on the fact that, while only a part of personal income bears tax, virtually the whole of any increase in income is fully taxed. If the whole of income were taxed at the same rate, revenue would rise only in step with income.

This means that as the proportionate value of tax-free allowances has been steadily eroded, so too has the buoyancy of income tax, been reduced. Since fixed-value duties such as those on tobacco and alcohol actually fall as a percentage of revenue when price inflation is the main cause of rising incomes, total revenue now hardly displays any fiscal drag against inflation.

The result of all these influences is that we are now in a situation which looks superficially like the reflationary deficits which some other governments are deliberately incurring, but in fact a travesty of Keynesian management.

It is clear, then, that a reduction of the real burden of public spending is necessary to make British public finances manageable again. Indeed, Mr. Healey's

THE GROWING BURDEN



WHAT IT TAKES TO ACHIEVE CONSTANT BORROWING (£bn.)

	1975/6 (est.)	1977/8 High inflation 20-15	1977/8 Low inflation 12-8	1977/8 Low inflation, low coupon
Revenue	43.5	40	52.5	52.5
Borrowing	12	12	12	10.5
Total finance	55.5	52	64.5	63.0
Less debt service	5.5	8.5	8.0	6.5
Less pensions etc.	12	16.5	14.5	14.5
Balance for "real" spending	38	47	42	42
Required to maintain real level	—	52.5	46	46
"Gap": £bn.	—	5.5	4	4
%	—	11.5	8.5	8.5

See text for economic assumptions

policy of little or no real absolute financial obligation, growth for five years is aimed at the maintenance of the real value of pensions and welfare.

What is horrifying, however, is the realisation that a standard in real growth—which means cuts in the standards of service in those areas where demand is growing—is not enough to solve the problem, even assuming a resumption in economic growth. It is certainly not enough to solve it within a tolerable time span. The reasons are purely arithmetic, and are set out in the table.

The table is not a forecast. Economic activity is held level, and the figures show simply what would happen to revenue and certain categories of expenditure over the next two years on two different inflation projections: one of 20 per cent. inflation for a year, dropping to 15 per cent. and the other—an over-optimistic projection of the Government's own objectives—assuming 12 per cent. followed by 8 per cent. Borrowing is held constant in the first three columns at £12bn. in money terms (the final column can be ignored for the time being). Revenue and borrowing give the available finance: debt service is

other best-remembered landmarks were the King and Country debate in 1953 and the surprisingly late admission of women 30 years after that. Past officers have included five Prime Ministers; 47 members of the present House of Commons are former officers or committee members.

Those on the appeal committee who will have particular responsibility, presumably, for seeing industry and commerce look to their pockets are Courtenay Blackmore of Lloyds, Sir William Nield, former Permanent Secretary at the Cabinet Office and deputy chairman of Rolls-Royce 1971 these days; and Michael Heseltine, Conservative industry spokesman.

Macmillan conjured up the names of Gladstone and Asquith and the hallowed principles of discussion and debate in the cause of the appeal, though he had to admit the money was actually needed for practical things like rot in the floor and pensions for staff. As for students paying up to ease the problem, the union reckons that given subscriptions have to come out of grants, the £25 a year it is charging from this week is very much a ceiling.

How far? A thoroughly depressed man in need of a break went into his travel agent. "I must get away," he said. "Where do you want to go?" asked the agent. "Don't care," said the would-be client, "as long as I can get a holiday." The exasperated agent said quietly "Look sir, over there is a globe of the world—why don't you go and take your pick?" The man despondently twirled the globe around for a few minutes, then came back to the desk. "Got anything else?"

New type of union trouble

Difficult to imagine an institution with more potential power and influence to raise money from old friends and their friends than the Oxford Union. Yesterday, Harold Macmillan, a former librarian (vice-president) and two ex-presidents, TV man Robin Day and Lord Hailsham, launched an appeal for the society, like so many other organisations facing hard times at the moment and needing £750,000 to stay solvent. Founded in 1823 as the United Debating Society, the Union's

He tried harder

Touching the way Avis, the American-owned car hire group, is still so coy about its big competitor, Hertz. Yesterday Avis announced the elevation of London-born Colin Marshall to be President (an unusual distinction for a Briton in U.S. companies) and thus number two in the overall organisation to Winston Morrow, chairman and chief executive officer.

Marshall, reported Avis, started life as a cadet purser on a merchant ship and "entered the rent a car business in 1958 with another firm." Put like that, it could hardly be anybody but good old Hertz.

Avis used to say that as second in the field "we try harder." The latter part of the slogan is still used, though in the U.K. and Europe it has now overtaken its slimmer-down rival.

When Marshall joined Avis in 1964, he was given the task of setting up the European operation, the company having been represented here by Godfrey Davis until then. By 1969, he was head of all international operations, becoming an executive vice-president and moving to the States in 1971.

MEN AND MATTERS

More than meets the eye at the IoD

The rather bland announcement that John Staddon has "decided to leave" the Institute of Directors after 21 years as its secretary cloaks an acrimonious dispute between the old guard at the IoD—loyal to the philosophy of Sir Richard Powell who brought Staddon in when he became director-general in 1954—and those that favour Jan Hildreth's new approach since he became d-g at the beginning of this year.

Though nobody on either side is critical of Staddon's abilities, and though the whole thing is being handled in gentlemanly fashion the phrase "decided to leave" is euphemistic. There is no secret that Hildreth was not a universally popular choice as the new director-general. Even the chairman of the Institute, Lord Erroll, admitted yesterday that "Jan had a rough six months to start off with," but he claims that all is now well. Staddon contributed to this rough six months because he spoke his mind, disagreed with much of what Hildreth was doing, and a personality clash occurred. Hildreth won.

Staddon's fate as man in the middle is only one thread in the skein of disagreements which have been troubling the IoD, and if Erroll says all is now well there are others who would disagree. Traditional policy was that the Institute was a professional body designed to represent directors as individuals. Hildreth wants to represent directors as a group, bringing accusations that he is running dangerously close to trespassing on the ground which should be the preserve of the CBI.



"We've sold out but there's an outside chance we could supply you with a nice Chrysler."

The situation is not helped by the financial problems of the Institute. In its last financial year it made a loss of £130,000, and is heading for an even bigger one this year unless another raising of subscriptions can cover the situation. In December the subscription went up from 8 gns to £14, and is now being lifted to £30. Hildreth is prepared for a 25 per cent. drop in membership as a result but the actual figure will not be known until renewals of subscriptions have worked their way through the system.

One thing is for sure: the unhappiness of many of the old guard will contribute to the reduction in the 43,000 membership. And it looks as though the Albert Hall—venue for the IoD's annual conference which is to be held next week—will be at best half full instead of the normal capacity crowd of 5,000, and not all of the shortfall is down to the economic situation.

our Rent Review is an easy matter to settle but is it?

? Is the rent review notice valid?
? What is the current market rental value?
? Will the improvements we have made to the property be taken into account?

For advice on these and the many other problems of rent review negotiations, consult The Property Consultants United Kingdom and Overseas.

Edward Erdman
6 GROSVENOR STREET LONDON W1X 0AD 01-629 6191

LONDON PARIS GLASGOW

Observer

Why import controls mean higher prices

THE harmless amusement of costs is likely to increase. Price control, operating on a cost-plus basis will be no help reports that the TUC was likely to prevent an open clash between the Government and the Labour Party on the issue of import controls. A Labour Government.

Mr. Ron Hayward, the secretary of the Labour Party, wants import controls to be broad enough to cover a wide range of goods including electrical components, on tubes, textiles, clothing and footwear. If this is done, it is a commodity I do not much want.

TUC statesmen who are for selective import control, by and large, the same whom ministers are praising for their counter-inflationary measures. Yet if there is one thing clear about import control is that whatever else they raise prices and inflationary in the sense of the word.

Reversed

all the main reasons for import controls are demanded in the fact that imports are too cheap—or value for money—than domestic goods. The aim is to switch the more expensive goods. Nor is the effect all. For if home market is guaranteed, the price-cost reduction are and the long run trend

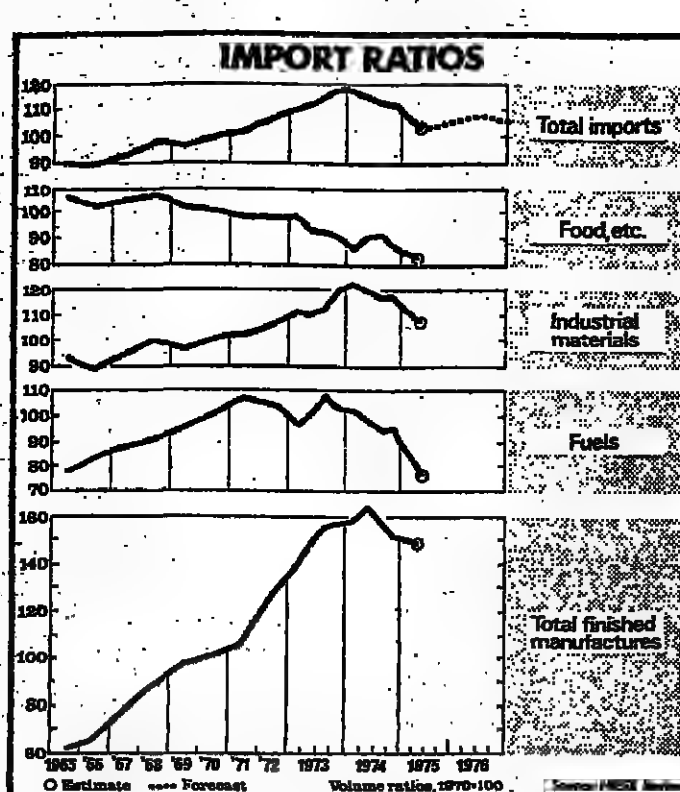
has been surprised at just how low imports have been. The view that imports are unresponsive to relative price changes—and therefore to exchange depreciation—of which the import controllers have depended for even a smattering of intellectual respectability, has gone right out of the window. Import volume in the first half of 1975 was even lower than could be explained by the Institute's new view that imports of manufactured goods fall by 0.8 per cent, for every 1 per cent increase in their price.

Mr. Shore's latest outburst has emphasised that the Government is actively interested in selective import controls. But more senior ministers have until now resisted the case for major restrictions designed to boost the balance of payments or "reflate" the home economy. An OECD pledge not to extend controls was renewed by the British Government earlier this year, subject to two conditions. The first was that sufficient international finance be available to cover the U.K. overseas deficit. The second was that there be an adequate demand boost in countries with payments surpluses.

Take risks

The first condition has certainly been fulfilled, even if British Ministers do not like the terms on which IMF help would be available. As for the second, Mr. Harold Wilson has already indicated that he will press other countries to pump more spending power into their economies at the six power Summit in November.

The British case really boils down to the view that other



The curve for total imports shows their ratio to total final expenditure; that for food, beverages and tobacco the ratio to consumer spending in that sector; that for industrial materials the ratio to manufacturing production; that for fuels the ratio to GDP; and that for total finished manufactures the ratio to consumers' expenditure on durables and fixed investment in plant and machinery.

countries should take risks with inflation; a number of experts in international organisations are afraid that too many risks are already being taken in that direction which could make the next world economic upturn as short and as crisis-prone as the last. The exact timing of the world trade upturn is quite im-

possible to predict; but if British ministers lose patience and resort to widespread controls, the losers will be the British people.

Far too much is being made of the danger of retaliation in the popular debate. It is quite on the cards that our partners in the EEC and GATT will decide that the U.K. is like a sick man and not worth retreating against. The real argument against controls is the domestic one that they would make the patient's condition worse.

Reimposed

On March 31, 1975, there were nine anti-dumping and one countervailing duty in force. Three duties had been suspended in the previous year and one new one introduced. Last week the Department of Trade announced that it was reimposing anti-dumping duties on saccharin from Japan and Korea. On the other hand, it concluded that there was no evidence of dumping of pre-finished plywood from Singapore and Taiwan. It was investigating allegations about ladies' rubberised raincoats from Korea and Hong Kong and also about the rather unfortunately named "dumper trucks" from the U.S.S.R. There are altogether 17 formal investigations now proceeding and 15-20 in a preliminary stage.

Whitehall justifiably claims that the number of anti-dumping duties is not a true measure of its vigilance, as in the majority of cases offenders voluntarily agree to restrict their sales and/or raise their prices. This procedure ensures not only that the price level to the British consumer goes up, but that the terms of trade are raised against this country. As Professor Jan Tumlir, the economic adviser to GATT, put it in a recent discussion paper, where there are quota restrictions "the difference between the c.i.f. import price" and the domestic price level "will accrue to the firms which obtain import licences." But when foreign countries or industries exercise voluntary restraint "the price differential accrues to them."

The same argument applies to the "voluntary" undertakings being extracted, such as the assurances that Mr. Peter Shore obtained about Japanese car exports or the arrangements that the EEC is trying to work out for limiting imports of steel. These arm-twisting undertakings are much more important than conventional anti-dumping. Yet they all involve a quite unnecessary deterioration in our terms of trade, over and above the loss to consumers from being forced to turn to high-priced domestic substitutes.

Embarrassing

An embarrassing matter for any British minister having to defend selective controls in an international forum is that imports of many of the sensitive items have fallen. Imports of textiles and television tubes have dropped even in value terms. Nevertheless, the Government appears to be working out maximum "import penetration" ratios for a number of products and will be inclined to enforce them if they look like being breached for more than a temporary period. For instance, ministers are insisting that for domestic car sales the import ratio must come down from 33 to 25 per cent. Mr. Shore has also said that no major British company will again be allowed to go under because of imports.

If talk without action continues much longer about selective import controls, Whitehall will begin to worry about the forestalling action by importers. This is the main argument for deciding how much is politically unavoidable and introducing it in a single package rather than proceeding on a case by case basis. But unless the package is smaller than now seems likely, I would favour risking the forestalling and spinning out the discussions as long as possible.

The least harmful compromise, if action is unavoidable, would in my view be import deposits at moderate levels. Such deposits are easier to remove than quotas or "voluntary restraints" on individual politically sensitive products. Their protective impact wears off over time; and, as the Italians recently discovered, the most important aspect of such a scheme is its impact on domestic credit expansion. As the latter will have to be curbed in any case, we might as well gain this advantage rather than inflict the pure harm on the domestic economy which would be involved in any other kind of import control. But best of all, as so often, would be to do nothing at all.

Letters to the Editor

Up silver bowl

H. Leggett

A report (October 17) of a gift bowl bought at a sale for 10p and sold at 20p by a collector, is a good demonstration of the problem of valuing art. This problem, however, is ignored by the Arts, Mr. Hugh H. Leggett (October 24) in his article on the art market.

Particular instance the recently been valued at different figures. First, former owner 10p and recently valued by a collector at 20p. The suggested reserve of their pre-sale estimate of £5,000. Finally, as knocked down for £10,000 while the reserve, after deduction of selling commission, was about £5,000. Not one to allow for value, namely the net gain of the collector, is a common misapprehension that the £5 limit is law. I have it on the authority of the Department of Employment that (a) There are no statutory limits on salary increases. (b) The policy (restriction) increases to £5 a week is a voluntary one. (c) Not to conform would be against a policy for which there is a large measure of public support. (d) Failure to conform (with a voluntary policy) would render the payer (in Mr. O'Connor's case the Ministry) liable to sanctions. The brackets are mine.

The sanctions referred to are the withholding of permission to make price increases. In the case of the hospitals what prices and to whom?

S. W. Penwill, 158, Fenchurch Street, E.C.3.

g, going

Mr. E. Vincent

M. Eilman argues in favour of "subsidies of works of art" as a way of maintaining the balance of payments. But art at the rate of £100 a month, for weeks does he think maintain the balance? And how many could it take to make a difference?

of History, Bristol, Bristol Building, 4.

alth

V. Beckley

Eilman assumes that, if I have cash but my works of art are prevented by a the cash will auto-e "devoted to pro-nis purposes." base that on another that we are all con-by increasing our in obtaining capital, he pure materialism, he delightful expres-holder," matches ings based on such coming home to roost 18 months or so stic losses made in the most respectable by the newer (?) cutives.

Credit, who dares?

From Margaret Grant

Sir.—Para. 39 of the VAT General Guide (Notice No. 700) states: "Bad Debts—VAT cannot be claimed on a taxable supply on the ground that the taxable person has not received the due payment from his customer, whatever steps he may have taken to recover the debt."

Who dares to do business on a credit basis with whom? Not only are we all becoming unpaid tax collectors, it appears that we have to pay over taxes which we haven't even received.

Margaret Grant, London Secretariat, 70, Queen Victoria Street, E.C.4.

Voluntary £6 limit

From Mr. S. W. Penwill

Sir.—Mr. T. R. R. O'Connor (October 27) is apparently under a common misapprehension that the £5 limit is law. I have it on the authority of the Department of Employment that (a) There are no statutory limits on salary increases. (b) The policy (restriction) increases to £5 a week is a voluntary one. (c) Not to conform would be against a policy for which there is a large measure of public support. (d) Failure to conform (with a voluntary policy) would render the payer (in Mr. O'Connor's case the Ministry) liable to sanctions. The brackets are mine.

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S. W. Penwill, 158, Fenchurch Street, E.C.3.

Scottish Daily News

From The Commercial Secretary, National Federation of Retail Newsagents

Sir.—I refer to the article concerning the fight for life in which the Scottish Daily News is engaged (October 29). Two references are made to newsagents which are, unfortunately, misleading.

In the public's mind a newsagent is the man from whom one buys newspapers and the newsagent in his shop most emphatically does not enjoy a discount of 87.8 per cent from the Scottish Daily News nor any other national newspaper. Mr. Baur can only be referring to a wholesaler. Reference is also made to the newsagent receiving two to three months' credit from the publisher. Again Mr. Baur is referring to a wholesaler and not a newsagent as the word is generally understood. A newsagent has, in fact, to settle his account with his wholesaler on a weekly basis—no question of two or three months' credit. A newsagent also frequently has to wait for a month before his own customers settle their newspaper accounts.

The newsagent, as your readers understand the word, provides a direct service to the public. His livelihood depends upon selling newspapers whereas the references to the newsagent in the article implies that he is contributing to the difficulties of the Scottish Daily News.

The price of milk

From Mr. J. Baker White

Sir.—Is there not a quite simple way of convincing housewives that, in relation to its food value, a pint of milk is still very cheap? It is to invite them to ask their husbands how much they pay for a pint of beer. Three pints of milk cost approximately the same as one pint of beer. Am I being unfair to other husbands if I point out that beer consumption is running at a very high, if not record, level? On the basis of average retail prices and average hourly earnings it requires just under five minutes to earn the price of a pint of milk and 18 minutes to earn the price of a pint of beer.

John Baker White, Street End Farms, Street End Place, Nr. Canterbury, Kent.

Merits of tax relief

From Mr. E. Palamounain

Sir.—Mr. Douglas Jay's interesting survey (October 17) of the credit inflation of 1973/74 contained a mis-statement which is too important to overlook. "In discriminate tax relief," he says, "for overdraft interest (not confined to house purchase) was also introduced in this period."

Quite apart from the criticism implicit in the use of the word "discriminate" (repeated later in the article), it is not correct to say that the tax relief concerned was "introduced" during the period. What Mr. Heath did (and it is right to name him because he put his personal authority behind it) was to restore the historic position, which had obtained right up to the Finance Act of 1969.

As to the merits of the tax relief, it seems unlikely that the arguments will ever be settled, but it certainly cannot be taken for granted that the present position is here to stay. To many of your readers it will seem at least reasonable that if interest receivable on money lent attracts tax, then interest payable on money borrowed should repel it.

Edgar Palamounain, Three Queens, Tower Hill, E.C.3.

Reasonable insulation

From Mr. E. Ambrose

Sir.—The Department of the Environment has issued its direction designed to forgive all those wicked home dwellers who have broken the law for 16 years by insulating their cavity walls, as well as to encourage patriotic citizens who, from November 3, would like to heed the Government's "expensive advertising campaign urging energy conservation."

The relaxation is described as easing an unreasonable situation. But does it? The installer must, rightly, still adhere to the rigorous terms of Government-sponsored agreement certificates permitting dry insulant such as mineral wool to be used in any weather zone, restricting the cheaper foam insulants to sheltered areas, while restricting both types to three storeys; but he must now survey the building in order to make a solemn

Employing people

From Mr. D. M. Marier-Wilbourn

Sir.—Mr. Sweet's letter (October 27) leads one to speculate on the assumptions made by him and his career adviser colleagues when counselling women. Women may give a superficial impression that they are fickle employees as they often change employment because what they are allowed to do is uninteresting, undemanding, and lacks responsibility. If a man changes employer it is said he is progressing his career, and there are bad male managers.

The Institute of Personnel Management recently published information on the attitudes it had found among personnel managers to employing women in management roles. It exploded anti-feminine mythology by quoting relevant findings, and concluded that "personnel managers in general would have to change their prejudices against women, or they would infringe the Sex Discrimination Bill when enacted."

It would be interesting to do a similar survey of the attitudes of career advisers, in schools and universities. There are many women of my acquaintance who are trying to obtain suitable qualifications for management in their spare time after several years in stultifying employment, when it was not thought that such qualifications would be useful to them at the time they obtained careers advice.

D. M. Marier-Wilbourn, 50, Fairview Place, Woodfield Road, W.5.

Community Land Bill

From Mr. P. Trench

Sir.—You have published a number of letters on the subject of the Community Land Bill but none, so far as I have followed the correspondence, has referred to the method of disposal of land to house-builders once it has been taken into public ownership.

If public accountability and the natural desire of local authorities to maximise their funds dictate that such land, or a licence to build on it, should be put up to auction and sold at the highest price, does this not mean that the cost to the house-builder will have to be passed on to those who purchase the houses? Or is there some clever formula whereby both the local authority and the purchaser will be able to share the benefit of the difference between what the council pays for the land and what it sells for to the house-builder, which, in commerce, we refer to as profit?

Peter Trench, 33, Elm Tree Road, St. John's Wood, N.W.8.

To-day's Events

GENERAL
Prime Minister meets TUC leaders at 10, Downing Street to hear their views on selective import controls.
European Council of Ministers meets, Rome.
EEC Agricultural Ministers and two-day meeting, Luxembourg.
Dr. John Gilbert, Transport Minister, meets British Rail management and union leaders to discuss railways' future, London.
Mr. Peter Shore, Trade Secretary, continues European tour covering Paris, Rome, Bonn, Brussels and The Hague.
Ulster Constitutional Convention continues, Stormont Castle.
Dr. David Owen, Minister for Health and Social Security, speaks at Royal Society of Health meeting, Royal Westminster Hotel, S.W.1.
President Sadat of Egypt continues official visit to U.S.
West German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt continues visit to China.
Shah of Iran on five-day State visit to Turkey.

PARLIAMENTARY BUSINESS
House of Commons: Poll-tax holders Protection Bill and Local Land Charges Bill, remaining stages.
House of Lords: Consideration of Commons amendments to Industry Bill and Scottish Development Agency (No. 2) Bill.
OFFICIAL STATISTICS
Energy trends.
Bricks and cement production (September).
COMPANY RESULTS
Bank of Ireland (half-year).
James Finlay (half-year).
Lamson Industries (third quarter).
Wm. Price and Son (half-year).
Sheepbridge Engineering (half-year).
COMPANY MEETINGS
Decca, Winchester House, E.C.12.
Dumpton (Thames) Grayhounds, 16, St. Martin's-le-Grand, E.C.4.
12.

Martin (R. P.), Great Eastern Hotel, E.C.11.
Smith Brothers Limited, Institute of Chartered Accountants, Moorgate Place, E.C.2.
Southern Kinta Consolidated, 58, Moorgate, E.C.2.

EXHIBITIONS
Environmental Health Congress and Exhibition ends, Devonshire Park, Eastbourne.
Leisure and Outdoor Furniture Exhibition ends, Royal Lancaster Hotel, W.2.

MUSIC
New Philharmonia Orchestra, conductor Paul Tortelier, with Mirel Lancovici and Reiner Hockmure (cellos) play Berlioz overture Le Corsaire, Tchaikovsky's Variations on a Rocco Theme, Boccherini's cello concerto in B flat, and Debussy's La Mer, Royal Festival Hall, S.E.1, 8 p.m.
Cecil Aronowitz (violin) and Nicola Grunberg (piano) play Hummel's sonata in E flat, Schubert's sonata in A minor, Brahms' sonata in F minor, and works by Schumann and Britten, Wigmore Hall, W.1, 7.30 p.m.

One Scotch Whisky has the edge for smoothness. Can you name it?



HERE ARE A COUPLE OF CLUES.

COMPANY NEWS + COMMENT

TR still looks for similar profit

THE DIRECTORS of Telephone Rentals are still of the opinion that results for 1973 will be much in line with the previous year—when profits reached £7.5m.—despite the marked deterioration in the economic climate over the past months.

In the first half of the current year profit has risen slightly from £2.5m. to £2.7m. New sales business taken during the first nine months has continued at a high level; new rental business has shown some falling off lately, as anticipated.

First half 1974 figures have been increased for comparative purposes to allow for adjustments made in the full 1974 accounts, and include the effect of variations in foreign exchange rates.

	First half 1973	First half 1974	Year 1974
Rental turnover	£2.50	£2.70	£10.00
Sales, etc.	3.97	3.94	14.69
Total	6.47	6.64	24.69
Profit before tax	1.24	1.32	5.11
£100,000	1.24	1.32	5.11
Net profit	0.93	1.01	3.80
£100,000	0.93	1.01	3.80
Attributable	0.27	0.31	1.17

* After depreciation £1.4m. (1973), £1.5m. (1974).
† Includes U.K. charge £1.0m. (1973), £1.1m. (1974).
‡ Includes £0.5m. (1973), £0.5m. (1974).
§ Includes £0.5m. (1973), £0.5m. (1974).
|| Includes £0.5m. (1973), £0.5m. (1974).

The net interim dividend is held at 1.25p per 25p share; total for 1974 was 4.75p.

comment

Telephone Rentals expects its level of interim performance to extend for the whole of 1974. After six months there has been solid volume growth in sales fittings and the guesses are that higher profits here (say 40 per cent of the total historically) have been offset by the slowdown in rental where there are problems with inflation among the older, fixed price contracts. It will probably be another year or so before the new, indexed contracts come into force to determine the profit course of this division. Meanwhile, the group still has no borrowings, and at 82p the shares yield 7.3 per cent, covered twice by 1974 earnings.

Statement Page 22

Investment & Property Holdings

A PRE-TAX loss of £10.5m. against a profit of £305,000, was incurred by Investment and Property Holdings in the year to April 30, 1974. There is no dividend, compared with a net total of 1.15p for the previous year.

The loss per 25p share is shown at 18.17p (earned 4.04p) or 16.53p (4.27p) (fully diluted). The loss is arrived at after writing off interest £887,000 (1973, £800,000) and after currency losses of £303,000 (nil).

	1973-74	1974-75
Turnover	£10.5m	£10.5m
Profit before tax	£305,000	£305,000
Profit after tax	£305,000	£305,000
Attributable loss	£10.5m	£10.5m

* Profit including from non-distributable reserve £2,000 (1973), £2,000 (1974).
† Ordinary profit £205,000 (1973), £205,000 (1974).
‡ Dividend £10.5m (1973), £10.5m (1974).
§ Includes £10.5m (1973), £10.5m (1974).
|| Includes £10.5m (1973), £10.5m (1974).

Net asset value per share is shown at 14.19p.

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Caravans Intl.	21	8	Oxley Printing	20	6
Coppydex	21	3	Queen St. Warehouse	21	3
Graig Shipping	21	7	Shiloh Spinners	20	6
Gresham House Est.	20	6	Smart (J.)	20	2
Headcrest Invest.	21	4	Sturbridge Engng.	22	4
Headlam Sims	21	2	Telephone Rentals	20	1
Highland Distilleries	21	6	Utd. City Merchants	20	4

J. Smart well on target

AGAINST A forecast of not less than £300,000, J. Smart (Contractors), engaged in building and public works, has turned in profits of £256,482 for the year ended July 31, 1973.

When making their forecast in May, the directors said that operations had been relatively free from interruptions. Loss making fixed price contracts were largely out of the way, and provisions had been made to cover all known and prospective losses.

The final dividend is 1.127095p for a net total of £2,560,952 per 10p share; waivers aggregating £75,598 have been received on the total dividend. In 1973-74 the payment was £7,700,952 from profits of £301,253.

After tax £462,674 (£241,883), the 1973-74 net profit came out at £462,508 against £256,267. Earnings are stated at 9.2p compared with 5.1p.

comment

J. Smart has finally lifted itself off the plateau to which it slumped in 1972-73. Loss-making fixed price contracts have apparently been the greatest problem in the last few years and the elimination of these has enabled the group to lift its 1973-74 pre-tax level by 85 per cent. The group, which is entirely involved in Scotland, appears to be enjoying a fairly high level of activity; particularly on local authority housing, and its current work load is running at 100 per cent of the same level in volume terms, as it was this time last year. Moreover, the group's balance sheet looks strong at the moment with cash balances totalling about £1.5m. (against £722,000 in July 1974) and no borrowings. So although the current year could prove to be one of consolidation rather than further growth the shares at 49p, yielding 9.7 per cent, offer a reasonably good value.

A. Caird profit

Sales of tailors, outfitters, general drapers and furriers, A. Caird and Sons, increased from £729,000 to £837,900 for the half year to July 31, 1973, and there was a net profit of £7,000, against

a loss of £3,700, after tax of £7,500 (nil).

Turnover continues to be well maintained, but the overall increase for the nine months to October 31, 1973, has fallen to 18.5 per cent, against the 22 per cent increase for the half year, the directors state.

It is difficult to forecast the ultimate profit for the year to January 31, 1974 (£40,580 net after tax of £30,156 for 1973-74), they add.

Associated Leisure upturn

Group profit, before tax, of Associated Leisure increased from £1,053,000 to £1,130,000 for the 26 weeks to September 14, 1973, compared with the 38 weeks to November 10, 1974.

In the current economic conditions the directors regard the results as reasonable and, subject to there being no deterioration in trading conditions this winter, they expect the outcome for the full year to be satisfactory.

For the 26 weeks to March 18, 1973, profit was £1,284,000.

There is an extraordinary credit for the half year of £38,000 from further purchases for cancellation of the Unsecured Loan stock, compared with £232,000 for the equivalent period last year, and is the cause of the lower level of profit attributable to holders—£380,000, against £783,000.

The interim dividend is raised from 1.05p to 1.1p net per 3p share. The total for the 44 weeks was 1.07p.

Principal activities are the distribution and renting of amusement machines and the operating of leisure centres and amusement parks.

	26 weeks 1973	44 weeks 1973-74
Turnover	£4,943	£4,822
Trading services	2,389	2,233
Depreciation	1,254	1,181
Interest income	189	215
Interest payable	189	215
Profit before tax	1,333	1,053
Taxation	365	326
Financial credits	51	51
Minority	51	51
Attributable	89	783

comment

Just as forecast at the AGM, Associated Leisure's interim figures are satisfactory, and the new management appears to have smoked out most of the problems it inherited. Nevertheless, the figures do expose the limited

growth potential of the present range of activities, and one response to this might be an earnings based acquisition. In the meantime, the group has probably reached the limit of its market manoeuvres to build up shareholders' funds now that it has bought out the Holmark minority. The price of the loan stock has moved against AL (witness the fall in extraordinary credits on loan stock cancellations) and the next move might well be an issue of AL paper on a larger scale than the Holmark deal. At 26 1/2p, the prospective yield is 13 per cent.

UCM shows some reduction

IN THE year ended June 30, 1973, United City Merchants has suffered a decline in sales and profits, but since then there are "clear signs that activities in all areas are improving," chairman Mr. R. C. Sosnow reports.

Sales came out at £127.52m. (£138.79m.) and profits were £17.2m. against £18.5m. The year saw the international timber trade change from a seller's to a buyer's market with both prices and volume of sales falling very substantially.

Similar conditions were experienced in the international hide and leather trade, although the fall in this area was not as steep.

Because of its widespread activities and elasticity the group managed to recoup much of these profit reductions. The main sources of increased income and profits were the international motor trade, engineering, animal by-products, banking, contracting, and shipping services.

The dividend is raised from 0.504p to 1.016p net per 10p share, with a final of 0.516p. A one-for-five scrip issue to holders registered December 1 is also proposed.

	1972-73	1973-74
Gross sales	£127.52	£138.79
Profit	£17.2	£18.5
Loan stock interest	1,284	1,284
Profit before tax	1,284	1,284
Taxation	1,284	1,284
Minority	1,284	1,284
Attributable	1,284	1,284

* Includes U.K. deferred tax.

† Interim dividend for holders.

comment

The slump in timber prices and volume hit UCM hard in the second half, forcing pre-tax profits some 21 per cent. lower for an overall shortfall of 6 per cent. Considering the importance of the timber activities, accounting for between 70 to 80 per cent of total sales, and given that leather and hides were also depressed, good results must have been achieved elsewhere.

The Middle East and South Africa have again been strong areas while an improvement has been seen in Eastern Europe. Recovery in timber activity—primarily and volume remain flat—clearly holds the key to UCM's growth in the short-term although at the moment the company is managing to hold 1973-74 levels on the strength of the last traditional types of trade.

It is at times like these that the shares at 28p could benefit from a slightly



Mr. Eric Cooper, chairman of Telephone Rentals.

DIVIDENDS ANNOUNCED

Company	Current payment	Date of payment	Corresponding dividend	Total dividend
Allied Irish Banks	1.25p	Dec. 17	2.50p	3.75p
Assoc. Leisure	1.127095p	Feb. 3	1.05p	2.177095p
BPS Industries	1.127095p	Jan. 31	1.05p	2.177095p
Caravans Intl.	0.2p	Dec. 19	0.2p	0.4p
Cont. Union Trust	0.56p	Dec. 1	0.56p	1.12p
Coppydex	0.65p	Nov. 28	0.4p	1.05p
Graig Shipping	1.127095p	Dec. 15	1.05p	2.177095p
Gresham House Est.	1.127095p	Dec. 15	1.05p	2.177095p
Gresham House Est. Intl.	1.127095p	Dec. 15	1.05p	2.177095p
Investment Prop. Hldgs.	1.127095p	Dec. 15	1.05p	2.177095p
Ernest Ireland	1.127095p	Dec. 15	1.05p	2.177095p
Maurice James	1.127095p	Dec. 15	1.05p	2.177095p
Kwik Save Discount	1.127095p	Dec. 15	1.05p	2.177095p
Shiloh Spinners	1.127095p	Dec. 15	1.05p	2.177095p
J. Smart	1.127095p	Dec. 15	1.05p	2.177095p
Telephone Rentals	1.127095p	Dec. 15	1.05p	2.177095p
Utd. City Merchants	1.127095p	Dec. 15	1.05p	2.177095p
H. Woodward	1.127095p	Dec. 15	1.05p	2.177095p

Dividends shown pence per share net except where otherwise stated. (a) For scrip issue. (b) On capital increased by rights and/or acquisition issues. (c) For 44 weeks. (d) Expected that a final dividend will be paid.

higher yield than the current 5 1/2 per cent, which admittedly is covered more than five times.

E. Ireland loss after write offs

PRINCIPALLY DUE to a write down of £10.5m. in commercial and residential developments, and land, Ernest Ireland has incurred a loss of £10.5m. for the first half of 1973, compared with a profit of £747,000.

Ernest Ireland (Contractors) and Cavin produced profits of £450,000, while the loss at Weir Construction has been contained at £132,000.

Mr. J. D. Fitzjohn, chairman, is optimistic that, having made the allowances, satisfactory figures will be presented in future. Therefore, the full 1973 result should show improvement on the half year.

Group turnover for this year will be some £30m. and the forward order position for contracting in 1973 is satisfactory.

The chairman says, "with profitable construction work in the Middle East and an improving position at Weir Construction, added to the activities of contracting subsidiaries in established fields, 'good prospects are possible for the early return of the group to previous continuous profitability'."

The interim dividend is passed (0.75p) but the directors expect to pay a final—1.505p in 1974.

With a great improvement in the investment market, advantage has been and will continue to be taken to sell some completed developments and sites.

The whole of the 1973 R and D costs including interest on Ernest Ireland (Electronics) of £165,000 has been written off, being the total considered necessary for the present range of cameras and analysers now being sold.

comment

Ernest Ireland's interim results fall naturally into two segments—the new property involvement and the traditional building interests. The group is emphasising its withdrawal from the speculative property development by writing down the portfolio by some 10 per cent, while providing against the ancillary activities as well. Plainly there could be further provisions, if the group's timetable of gradual reduction of its property involvement is to be maintained. At 22p, the market capitalisation is £15m.

Statement Page 21

Receiver for Kay-Bevan

A receiver has been appointed to Kay-Bevan, the building and contracting subsidiary of GRA Property Trust which last week requested that its share price be suspended due to "pressing liquidity problems arising from the group's property activities."

Barclays Bank has appointed Mr. J. R. Adcock, a senior partner in Post Marwick Mitchell and Co., Birmingham, to act as Receiver and Manager of Kay-Bevan and

its subsidiaries after efforts to either sell part or all of Kay-Bevan, or to find alternative forms of finance, had failed. It is not clear what GRA's investment in Kay-Bevan is likely to be worth.

Kay-Bevan's subsidiaries include L. G. Bevan Construction, Kay-Bevan Homes, Brookmoor Brick, Flooring and Roofing (Contractors), Kenson Plumbing and Heating, James Painters and Cotteridge Investments. In each case Mr. Adcock will be acting jointly with Mr. H. E. McLuskey or Mr. A. F. Jones of W. J. Phillips, who are also partners of Post-Marwick Mitchell, Birmingham.

Mr. J. D. Fitzjohn, chairman, is optimistic that, having made the allowances, satisfactory figures will be presented in future. Therefore, the full 1973 result should show improvement on the half year.

Group turnover for this year will be some £30m. and the forward order position for contracting in 1973 is satisfactory.

ISSUE NEWS

Berry Wiggins £2 1/2 rights at 33p

Berry Wiggins and Co. proposes to make a rights issue of 8,077,270 shares at 33p per share, to be offered to shareholders registered October 30 on a two-for-three basis. The issue raises a net £2.1m.

Following the acquisition of KCA Drilling Group, Berry Wiggins has been required to raise equipment finance for two new drilling contracts which had not been funded by KCA before it joined the group.

The company has now arranged a medium term finance of £2.05m. with Manufacturers Hanover Leasing International, for equipment for the contracts with Mobil Oil and Sonatrach. This finance comes on top of other expansion moves as such there was some need to enlarge the equity base. Indeed, this will be payable during financing arrangements with Sonatrach required BW's to raise additional equity capital.

The directors forecast this before tax for the year will be about £1.2m. to £1.3m. for the previous year. This is a final dividend of 1.225p in proposed on 1.025p per share.

The issue has been underwritten by Samuel Montagu & Co. and Nott & Grossman, who are W. Greenwell's agents. BW has also made a 5 per cent. equity issue of 1.5 per cent. equity it does not intend to share, payable in cash.

BABCOCK & WIL

The issue of 45,520 shares by Babcock and Wilcox, by rights has closed with a 94.7 per cent. of the balance has been sold to benefit of entitled holders.

BIDS AND DEALS

Atlas Stone "yes" Eternit bid

THE BOARD of Atlas Stone is now recommending that shareholders accept an improved offer of 15p per share from Eternit, although it is still unanimous in favour of the offer.

The revised offer of 15p per share, which was made in July, has now been agreed to by Atlas Stone's shareholders. The offer is equivalent to 4.6p per share, which is a 10 per cent. increase on the previous offer of 13.5p.

In the opinion of the Atlas Board the gross value of this offer, at 15p per share, compares with an original offer of 15p, made in September, and a price of 15p, which had been mentioned in discussions in January 1974. The directors now agree that the latest offer meets the objections raised to the original bid. As a result of the offer, the posting of the official document is expected to be delayed.

Eternit has provided assurances to the Atlas Board with regard to conditions of employment, including pension rights, of all Atlas employees.

ESTATES AND GENERAL

The Board of Estates and General Investments announced that on a poll, the resolution proposed at the EGM on July 30, 1973, to approve the merger with County and Suburban Holdings has been defeated.

As a result of the poll, the chairman, Mr. H. E. McLuskey, advised that the votes ought to be counted. The chairman was advised by leading and junior counsel that the votes ought to be counted, and accordingly the chairman would have been carried.

As the result of the resolution depended solely on this point, the chairman felt it right to put the matter before the High Court in proceedings already commenced by members of an association representing persons against the merger.

Proceedings finished yesterday and the Court held that the chairman would have been entitled to reject the proposal in question at or before the meeting but that no objection was taken at the meeting and the votes ought properly to be counted.

The Board is advised by leading and junior counsel that if there

SHARE STAKES

London Trust on October 30 bought 270,000 Automatic Tools making its total 450,000 shares (18.18p per share). London Trust Investments has 1,444,295 Ordinary shares in Investments.

Yule Catto Estates is interested in September in 1,812,500 Ordinary shares of strength of 11.34p per cent. More Bids Page 23

BIRD & CO. (AFRICA) LIMITED

Extracts from Chairman's Statement

Until October 1967 your company was one of the leading producers of steel and considerable progress had been made towards diversification. To assist the development of production, an issue of £600,000 of debenture stock was issued in 1958. The total amount of debenture stock outstanding at the time of nationalization in October 1967, was £26,978.

It has been possible to reach an agreement (reported to stockholders in August) which results not only in the liability to repay the debentures during the years 1968 to 1973 being removed, but also a total of Tanzania Shillings 15,306,500 being payable to your company, sterling, in the first instalment of T.Shs.4,050,500 was paid in July this year and the final payment is due on 1st July, 1978.

It is now the first objective of your board to apply to the Stock Exchanges in London and Nairobi to try to arrange for stockholders to have the flexibility that they had before it deciding whether or not to sell all or part of their holding.

A. Beckman Limited

Textiles and Fabric Converters

	1975	1974
Year ended 30th June		
Turnover	£12,048,273	£10,150,458
Profit before tax	£1,517,027	£1,310,957
Profit after tax	£732,231	£620,917
Earnings per share	9.28p	8.28p

Highlights from the Statement by the Chairman, Mr. S. Beckman

■ Final dividend of 3.2118p per share. Total for the year with interim—4.7118p per share (equivalent with associated tax credit to 7.249p per share).

■ The Board is recommending a 1 for 10 bonus share issue.

■ Net asset value per share has increased by 4.97p in the year.

■ Turnover in first 14 weeks of current year is again substantially higher than comparative period last year.

Copies of the Report and Accounts are available from the Secretary, 112 Great Portland Street, London W1N 6JF.

NACIONAL FINANCIERA S.A.

U.S. \$150,000,000

Earnings growth for BPB Industries

ST-HALF pre-tax earnings of BPB Industries group have ended from £5.8m to £8.9m. A scaled back earnings per 50p up from 8.2p to 13.5p.

Chairman Mr. N. M. Barrow said that subject to factors outside Board control, results for the full year to March 1976, should be ahead of last year at least by increase in earnings now.

Uncertain economic conditions make it difficult to estimate accurately, he points out, but earnings last year were in the per share figure 1.

Recent actuarial valuations of the staff pension fund show that liabilities for present and future pensions are growing at rates not matched by a corresponding growth in investment income. To take account of this, a provision of £1.5m, has been made during the half year.

Within the confines of the Price Code, and this is reflected in the better results.

In following the policy of seeking opportunities, particularly in mainland Europe, for sound investment where prospects seem particularly good, the company has recently increased its holding in Placoplatre SA, the leading plasterboard producer in France. This involved an expenditure of £3.5m, borrowed overseas, and resulted in the interests in Placoplatre being increased to over 98 per cent.

Recent actuarial valuations of the staff pension fund show that liabilities for present and future pensions are growing at rates not matched by a corresponding growth in investment income. To take account of this, a provision of £1.5m, has been made during the half year.

Net inter dividend, payable capital increase of last year's rights issue, is 1.2p to 3.1p. A total of not more than the maximum permitted has been forecast, with a 5.75p for 1974-75.

Reporting on the building side, Mr. Barrow says housing construction could be depressed and the need of sales for this sector at a lower level, but increased activity in the housing market and the increasing popularity of plasterboard and construction materials in general, resulted in a satisfactory improvement in earnings of British Gypsum Canada, housing activity a good recovery and West-Industries, having cut out unprofitable operations and reduced costs, had a good half year pre-tax earnings of £1.8m.

paper, paperboard and glass, adds the chairman, the effect on earnings of the year which began to be felt in paper and converting at the end of 1974, both in and in mainland Europe, apparent.

Members of the six has shown a marked rise in the rate of inflation as it affects cost of manufacturing products in the last year there were violent fluctuations in profitability, due to a time lag in obtaining a lower rate of cost, in a more consistent level of profitability to be achieved.

IRELAND

Half year report

Good prospects of early recovery

A result principally of the decision to write-down payments and land to present property market values, unaudited for the six months to 30th June 1975 show a net loss of £400,000 against a profit of £747,000 in the same period of the year and a group profit for the full year to 31st December of £457,888. After taxation the group loss for the first six months is £400,000 against a comparative profit of £400,000 and a loss for the full year of £37,416.

A group's construction subsidiaries all traded profitably and Ireland (Constructors) Limited and Calfin & Co. Limited had encouraging profits of £450,000.

A write-down upon commercial and residential developments amounted to £1.05 million and in addition the whole of the research and development costs of £1.65 million have been 100%.

ving made these allowances the Board are optimistic that story figures will be presented in the future. Although unable to amend an interim dividend, on the basis of the anticipated for the second half of the year, it is expected that a final dividend will be paid.

an the group took a controlling interest in Weir Construction Ltd. 1974, the loss for that year exceeded £750,000. During the months of the loss the loss has been contained at £132,000, expected that a modest overall profit for the year will be achieved.

up turnover for this year will be approximately £30 million and a good order position for contracting in 1976 is satisfactory.

hour local partners in the United Arab Emirates have secured orders for £9 million of work, at adequate margins, to be started during 1976.

in profitable construction work in the Middle East is improving situation at Weir Construction, added to activities of the contracting subsidiaries in established good prospects are possible for the early return of up to previous continuous profitability.

INVEST IRELAND

Civil Engineering Contractors - Property Developers

Notice of Redemption

Ford International Capital Corporation

5% Guaranteed Debentures Due 1981

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to the provisions of the Indenture dated as of December 1970, under which the above designated Debentures are issued, \$750,000 aggregate principal amount of such Debentures, of the following series, has been drawn by lot for redemption on or before 1, 1975 (herein sometimes referred to as the redemption date):

\$1,000 Coupon Debentures									
1483	2717	4239	5215	7812	9248	10970	12478	13620	14622
1488	2722	4244	5220	7817	9253	11025	12533	13675	14677
1493	2727	4249	5225	7822	9258	11030	12538	13680	14682
1498	2732	4254	5230	7827	9263	11035	12543	13685	14687
1503	2737	4259	5235	7832	9268	11040	12548	13690	14692
1508	2742	4264	5240	7837	9273	11045	12553	13695	14697
1513	2747	4269	5245	7842	9278	11050	12558	13700	14702
1518	2752	4274	5250	7847	9283	11055	12563	13705	14707
1523	2757	4279	5255	7852	9288	11060	12568	13710	14712
1528	2762	4284	5260	7857	9293	11065	12573	13715	14717
1533	2767	4289	5265	7862	9298	11070	12578	13720	14722
1538	2772	4294	5270	7867	9303	11075	12583	13725	14727
1543	2777	4299	5275	7872	9308	11080	12588	13730	14732
1548	2782	4304	5280	7877	9313	11085	12593	13735	14737
1553	2787	4309	5285	7882	9318	11090	12598	13740	14742
1558	2792	4314	5290	7887	9323	11095	12603	13745	14747
1563	2797	4319	5295	7892	9328	11100	12608	13750	14752
1568	2802	4324	5300	7897	9333	11105	12613	13755	14757
1573	2807	4329	5305	7902	9338	11110	12618	13760	14762
1578	2812	4334	5310	7907	9343	11115	12623	13765	14767
1583	2817	4339	5315	7912	9348	11120	12628	13770	14772
1588	2822	4344	5320	7917	9353	11125	12633	13775	14777
1593	2827	4349	5325	7922	9358	11130	12638	13780	14782
1598	2832	4354	5330	7927	9363	11135	12643	13785	14787
1603	2837	4359	5335	7932	9368	11140	12648	13790	14792
1608	2842	4364	5340	7937	9373	11145	12653	13795	14797
1613	2847	4369	5345	7942	9378	11150	12658	13800	14802
1618	2852	4374	5350	7947	9383	11155	12663	13805	14807
1623	2857	4379	5355	7952	9388	11160	12668	13810	14812
1628	2862	4384	5360	7957	9393	11165	12673	13815	14817
1633	2867	4389	5365	7962	9398	11170	12678	13820	14822
1638	2872	4394	5370	7967	9403	11175	12683	13825	14827
1643	2877	4399	5375	7972	9408	11180	12688	13830	14832
1648	2882	4404	5380	7977	9413	11185	12693	13835	14837
1653	2887	4409	5385	7982	9418	11190	12698	13840	14842
1658	2892	4414	5390	7987	9423	11195	12703	13845	14847
1663	2897	4419	5395	7992	9428	11200	12708	13850	14852
1668	2902	4424	5400	7997	9433	11205	12713	13855	14857
1673	2907	4429	5405	8002	9438	11210	12718	13860	14862
1678	2912	4434	5410	8007	9443	11215	12723	13865	14867
1683	2917	4439	5415	8012	9448	11220	12728	13870	14872
1688	2922	4444	5420	8017	9453	11225	12733	13875	14877
1693	2927	4449	5425	8022	9458	11230	12738	13880	14882
1698	2932	4454	5430	8027	9463	11235	12743	13885	14887
1703	2937	4459	5435	8032	9468	11240	12748	13890	14892
1708	2942	4464	5440	8037	9473	11245	12753	13895	14897
1713	2947	4469	5445	8042	9478	11250	12758	13900	14902
1718	2952	4474	5450	8047	9483	11255	12763	13905	14907
1723	2957	4479	5455	8052	9488	11260	12768	13910	14912
1728	2962	4484	5460	8057	9493	11265	12773	13915	14917
1733	2967	4489	5465	8062	9498	11270	12778	13920	14922
1738	2972	4494	5470	8067	9503	11275	12783	13925	14927
1743	2977	4499	5475	8072	9508	11280	12788	13930	14932
1748	2982	4504	5480	8077	9513	11285	12793	13935	14937
1753	2987	4509	5485	8082	9518	11290	12798	13940	14942
1758	2992	4514	5490	8087	9523	11295	12803	13945	14947
1763	2997	4519	5495	8092	9528	11300	12808	13950	14952
1768	3002	4524	5500	8097	9533	11305	12813	13955	14957
1773	3007	4529	5505	8102	9538	11310	12818	13960	14962
1778	3012	4534	5510	8107	9543	11315	12823	13965	14967
1783	3017	4539	5515	8112	9548	11320	12828	13970	14972
1788	3022	4544	5520	8117	9553	11325	12833	13975	14977
1793	3027	4549	5525	8122	9558	11330	12838	13980	14982
1798	3032	4554	5530	8127	9563	11335	12843	13985	14987
1803	3037	4559	5535	8132	9568	11340	12848	13990	14992
1808	3042	4564	5540	8137	9573	11345	12853	13995	14997
1813	3047	4569	5545	8142	9578	11350	12858	14000	15002
1818	3052	4574	5550	8147	9583	11355	12863	14005	15007
1823	3057	4579	5555	8152	9588	11360	12868	14010	15012
1828	3062	4584	5560	8157	9593	11365	12873	14015	15017
1833	3067	4589	5565	8162	9598	11370	12878	14020	15022
1838	3072	4594	5570	8167	9603	11375	12883	14025	15027
1843	3077	4599	5575	8172	9608	11380	12888	14030	15032
1848	3082	4604	5580	8177	9613	11385	12893	14035	15037
1853	3087	4609	5585	8182	9618	11390	12898	14040	15042
1858	3092	4614	5590	8187	9623	11395	12903	14045	15047
1863	3097	4619	5595	8192	9628	11400	12908	14050	15052
1868	3102	4624	5600	8197	9633	11405	12913	14055	15057
1873	3107	4629	5605	8202	9638	11410	12918	14060	15062
1878	3112	4634	5610	8207	9643	11415	12923	14065	15067
1883	3117	4639	5615	8212	9648	11420	12928	14070	15072
1888	3122	4644	5620	8217	9653	11425	12933	14075	15077
1893	3127	4649	5625	8222	9658	11430	12938	14080	15082
1898	3132	4654	5630	8227	9663	11435	12943	14085	15087
1903	3137	4659	5635	8232	9668	11440	12948	14090	15092
1908	3142	4664	5640	8237	9673	11445	12953	14095	15097
1913	3147	4669	5645	8242	9678	11450	12958	14100	15102
1918	3152	4674	5650	8247	9683	11455	12963	14105	15107
1923	3157	4679	5655	8252	9688	11460	12968	14110	15112
1928	3162	4684	5660	8257	9693	11465	12973	14115	15117
1933	3167	4689	5665	8262	9698	11470	12978	14120	15122
1938	3172	4694	5670	8267	9703	11475	12983	14125	15127
1943	3177	4699	5675	8272	9708	11480	12988	14130	15132
1948	3182	4704	5680	8277	9713	11485	12993	14135	15137
1953	3187	4709	5685	8282	9718	11490	12998	14140	15142
1958	3192	4714	5690	8287	9723	11495	13003	14145	15147
1963	3197	4719	5695	8292	9728	11500	13008	14150	15152
1968	3202	4724	5700	8297	9733	11505	13013	14155	15157
1973	3207	4729	5705	8302	9738	11510	13018	14160	15162
1978	3212	4734	5710	8307	9743	11515	13023	14165	15167
1983	3217	4739	5715	8312	9748	11520	13028	14170	15172
1988	3222	4744	5720	8317	9753	11525	13033	14175	15177

INTERIM STATEMENTS

Telephone Rentals

INCORPORATED
DICTOGRAPH TELEPHONES LIMITED
OPERATING T. SERVICES

INTERIM STATEMENT FOR THE HALF YEAR ENDED 30th JUNE 1975

On the 29th October the Directors declared an Interim Dividend of 5.0% (1974-5%) on the Ordinary Share Capital in respect of the year to the 31st December, 1975 payable on the 10th December, 1975 to the Shareholders on the Register at the close of business on 14th November, 1975, absorbing £485,157.

The Consolidated Profit Statement (unaudited) of the Group for the six months ended 30th June, 1975, is as follows:

	1975	1974	1974
	6 months ended 30th June	6 months ended 30th June	12 months ended 31st Dec
£	£	£	£
Turnover:			
Rental	6,991,000	6,154,000	12,691,000
Sales and Other	5,017,000	3,454,000	10,480,000
	12,008,000	9,608,000	23,171,000
T.R. Group Profit, before			
Taxation	2,572,000	2,544,000	7,435,000
Less: Estimated Taxation	1,287,000	1,317,000	2,650,000
Group Profit after Taxation	2,285,000	2,227,000	4,785,000
Less: Minority Interests	8,000	18,000	25,000
Balance of Profit attributable to Telephone Rentals Limited	2,277,000	2,211,000	4,760,000
Depreciation: Amounts charged in arriving at above Profit	1,443,000	1,303,000	2,582,000
Taxation:			
United Kingdom	1,058,000	1,056,000	2,137,000
Overseas	229,000	261,000	523,000
	1,287,000	1,317,000	2,660,000
Transfer to Tax Equalisation Reserves			
Not included above	532,000	518,000	1,230,000

The figures for the 6 months to 30th June 1974 have been increased for comparative purposes to allow for adjustments made in the Annual Accounts for 1974 and include the effect of variations in foreign exchange rates during that year. United Kingdom taxation has been based on a Corporation Tax rate of 52% in both years.

Group Profits before Taxation for the first half of 1975 show a small increase compared with the first half of 1974. New sales business taken during the first nine months of this year has continued at a high level. New Rental business, as anticipated in the Chairman's statement accompanying the 1974 Accounts, has shown some falling off later in the year. Despite the marked deterioration in the economic climate over the past months, our Directors are still of the opinion that, as stated previously, the results for the year as a whole will be much in line with those for 1974.

GREEN'S ECONOMISER GROUP LIMITED

Interim Results (unaudited) for the 6 months to 30th June, 1975

	Half year to 30th June 1975	Half year to 30th June 1974	Year ended 31st Dec 1974
Turnover of the Group...	£4,776,103	£3,574,583	£8,141,323
Group Trading Profit ...	834,874	565,707	1,139,714
Interest Receivable	102,408	101,308	308,429
Interest Payable	837,282	867,013	1,348,143
Group Profit before Taxation	899,994	638,122	1,294,423
Taxation (Estimated) ...	476,455	338,577	669,031
Profit after Taxation ...	£411,939	£297,445	£595,402
Earnings per share	6.50p	4.57p	9.48p

The confidence I expressed in my Statement of last April is borne out by the results for the half year to June, 1975, and, subject to unforeseen circumstances, the profit for the second half of the year should be similar.

The Directors have declared an interim dividend of 1.055p per 25p share (1974: 0.955p). This interim dividend represents one half of the maximum amount of total dividend now permitted by the Government in respect of the full year and will absorb £67,038 (1974: £62,326).

S. L. Green, Chairman.

The full Statement contains details of the recent acquisition of an Ammonia business and copies are available from, The Secretary, Calder Vale Road, Wakefield, WF1 6PF.



MINING NEWS

Mr. Hersov is bullish about Anglo-Vaal

BY LESLIE PARKER, MINING EDITOR

"WE ARE budgeting for increased earnings and dividends during this financial year," is the overall verdict of Mr. Basil Hersov on the prospects for South Africa's Anglo-Vaal group in the 12 months to next June.

But he adds the general proviso that the improvement is dependent on the prices received for the group's widely diversified products, the availability of raw materials and its ability to keep ahead of the unusually rapid changes in economic conditions. In other words, Mr. Hersov understands hedges his bets although it is at least something in those unsettled times that he is prepared to look ahead with a degree of optimism.

He surveys a minerals scene that covers gold and uranium, copper and zinc, manganese and iron, platinum and antimony plus the group's industrial activities which provided 36 per cent of net profits in the year to last June.

—MINERALS SEARCH In such a diversification of interests Mr. Hersov naturally finds it difficult to assess the impact of South Africa's recent 17.5 per cent devaluation of the rand but implies that overall it is not likely to have a favourable effect on Anglo-Vaal's profitability.

The search for metals proceeds apace with exploration in progress in all four provinces of the republic with several potentially interesting prospects being examined in the Transvaal and the Cape Province.

In the second half of the past financial year Middle Wit became an Anglo-Vaal subsidiary. Its full impact on consolidated results will accrue in 1975-76. In the past year Anglo-Vaal boosted its earnings to a record 296 cents a share and raised its dividend by 20 cents to 35p. At least this seems to be in no danger of being reduced despite the general down-trend in the fortunes of the world's mining houses.

So Anglo-Vaal at £121 could be one of the more attractive investments in this particular sphere.

LONGER LIFE AT GREENBUSHES

Important tin-tantalite reserves are expected to become available for mining from work due to start soon on the re-siting of the south-western highway near Greenbushes in Western Australia, our Perth correspondent reports.

Minister Andrew Menzies said that the deviation was expected to extend the life of the Greenbushes mine by five

years. Valtan Minerals report that its latest quarterly results for the financial year, is the overall verdict of Mr. Basil Hersov on the prospects for South Africa's Anglo-Vaal group in the 12 months to next June.

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Black Arrow Group expansion hopes

Black Arrow Group, wholesale distributor of electrical equipment and retailers and lessors of (EBOS) 240 in the previous office furniture and equipment, months) and dividends total 1 is now in a strong financial position (1,005p) a share, net. Mr. Edward says the chairman, Mr. A. Edward and Mr. M. Edward Edward. Borrowings are minimal the dividend of 0.67p in 2m, sh (1,005p) in 2m, shares for period.

The company is organised and ready to take advantage of any upturn in trade and Mr. Edward believes there may soon be opportunities for extending the scope of its business.

A considerable number of finance companies, due to difficulties in other fields, have reduced activities in the leasing sector but Black Arrow, which in the past has concentrated leasing on office furniture and equipment, now finds itself with resources which could be used to finance plant, machinery and other capital items.

The chairman reports, however, that conditions in both office equipment and electrical distribution have further deteriorated because of shortage of cash but the lack of confidence, have made other companies reluctant to embark on capital expenditure—this must add to the attractions of the leasing services that Black Arrow offers, Mr. Edward adds.

As reported on September 16 to demand repayment at par.

Steps taken are not expected to have a pronouncedly favourable effect immediately, but the directors have no doubt that in longer term, the policy is right.

Conditions were very difficult during the year the policy of moving the Black Arrow and image combined rationalisation of wholesaling and retailing activities was in mind.

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LETTERS GROUP LIMITED

Strong Liquid Position

The following are extracts from the Annual Report of Letters Group Limited for the year ended 31st March, 1975 and from the Statement of the Chairman, Mr. Paul Zetter—

	31st March 1975	31st March 1974
£	£	£
Turnover:		
Football	5,842,744	5,286,810
Press stakes received	3,643,605	3,582,674
Less payments to winners and betting tax	1,998,139	1,904,236
Bingo	1,538,653	1,171,599
	2,537,822	2,975,895
Profit before taxation	543,296	547,484
Less: Deposit interest	27,856	23,084
Profit after taxation	515,440	524,400
Dividend	289,478	272,806
Retained	225,962	251,594
Dividends per share	4.31p	4.37p

FUTURE

Group enjoys a strong liquid position in both our main areas, Pools and Bingo. However, rising profit levels in this fierce inflationary period, will prove to be difficult. Prospects for growth are, I believe, mainly to be found in the latter. Consequently, every endeavour will be made to use considerable resources to accelerate our expansion in this field.

Centreway Securities Limited

12 MONTH SALES — SATISFACTORY PROFITS

	12 months to 31st March 1975	1974
£'000	£'000	£'000
Turnover	4,500	4,008
Profit before taxation	531	520
Taxation	(240)	(241)
Profit after taxation	291	279
Earnings per 10p share	6.7p	6.4p
Dividend payments per share	1.823p	1.706p

Points made by the Chairman, Mr. A. J. Cross:

- Turnover for the year has again reached a record level.
- Pre-tax profits are satisfactory, with all companies having traded profitably despite the serious economic difficulties.
- Final dividend paid is 0.944p per share, which when added to the Interim dividend, represents the maximum permissible for the year at 1.823p per share.

The Report and Accounts can be obtained from: The Secretary Securities Ltd., 1 Cornhill Street, Birmingham, B32DT

Weakened by aging models

BY PETER FOSTER

CHRYSLER in recent years has emerged as the weakest of the U.K. car manufacturers because, in its case, the perennial strike problems of the motor industry have been aggravated by an aging model range.

Only one new car has been introduced since Chrysler bought out Rootes in 1967 and that, the Avenger—launched in 1970—has slipped badly in the popularity ratings this year.

The depth of the problem was disclosed at the end of last week when the company announced that production of the Avenger would be slashed to only 31 days in the last two months of this year.

The view of the recent Commons Select Committee on the Motor Industry that Chrysler U.K. was in a long-term loss-making position because of its scale of production served to do no more than underline that the writing is already plainly on the wall.

No surprise

This Avenger decision came after the introduction in September of short-time working at the company's car and truck plants at Luton, Coventry and Lincoln.

Chrysler's two other main models, the Imp and the Hunter, are both more than ten years old, so the slump in the company's market penetration over the last

few years has come as no real surprise. Against the relatively modern and carefully thought-out Ford range, British Leyland's and Vauxhall's new models and the undoubted quality of cars imported, the decline this year has been accelerating. Market penetration, which has never been less than 9 per cent in recent years, fell to just 8.5 per cent in the first nine months of 1975.

Five deals

In the absence of investment funds for new models, the company has been forced to concentrate on the membership front. Less than two months ago it was running five marketing promotions, simultaneously: two cash rebates to dealers and one for buyers as well as cheap rate hire purchase and £75 worth of petrol with each Imp sold.

But the irony was that, although British Leyland was offering its highly publicised Superdeal, the importers—who had by then taken 40 per cent of the U.K. market—were offering few if any incentives.

Chrysler Corporation first bought a holding in Rootes in 1964 and took majority control in 1967 when it became the key party in a £20m. rescue operation for the company, which had run into heavy losses.

The American company at that time had to give a number of undertakings, the principal of which was that it should not "initiate any action to impair either the home or overseas

operations or the management and direction of Rootes as a British company in its relations with the Government, labour, its British shareholders and the public."

The other commitments were that there should be a 15 per cent. British shareholding, a majority of British directors, priority for the Linwood plant and a "progressive expansion" of exports.

The company was relieved of the minority shareholding requirement in 1973 after the Industrial Reorganisation Corporation, when it was disbanded, sold its stake to the U.S. parent.

As for the other commitments, there is still a majority of British directors, while Chrysler strongly maintains that it has stuck to its bargain both on the Linwood plant and the export front.

The company has spent more than £33m. on Linwood since it was built in 1963 while, on the export side, the proportion of production going to foreign markets has been higher than for any other British motor manufacturer. In 1974, 44,000 cars out of 262,000 produced were sent overseas.

The export position has this year become even stronger as a result of sales of "knocked-down" Avengers and Hunters to the growing Iranian market.

However, although the company will send 125,000 to Iran in part form against \$8,000 last year, this compares with earlier projections of 160,000.

Strikes have hit production badly and competitors are waiting in the wings to take over this potentially lucrative business should Chrysler falter.

Wafer-thin

Despite the rigorous approach of the new U.S. owners which helped to turn the company round after they took control in 1967, by 1970 the company was facing massive losses again.

Although the management, helped by more buoyant market conditions, once again pulled the company into the black, margins were never more than wafer-thin and the oil crisis and its deflationary impact led to a £21.4m. turnaround from profit to loss between 1972 and 1974. The position since then has worsened.

Meanwhile, the company's U.S. parent, faced with a loss of \$334m. in the first nine months of this year, is no longer able to perform another bailing-out operation.

Chrysler Corporation said on Tuesday: "In operations where the probability of continued losses remains, extraordinary actions, which could result in non-recurring losses, may be necessary to protect the company's interests and improve its longer-term profitability." This could include the disposal of Chrysler U.K.

The gradual movement of Chrysler's European motor manufacturing activity out of the U.K. and towards its French subsidiary Simca has in any case been going on for some time, with the decision to build the new Alpine model in France of key importance. A complete switch of development and major manufacturing for the subsidiary Simca has in any case been going on for some time, with the decision to build the new Alpine model in France of key importance.

Britain will direct aid to neediest in poor countries

BY JAMES BUXTON

BRITAIN WILL try to direct its development aid towards the world's poorest countries and to assist the poorest groups within them. This is the message of a White Paper from the Ministry of Overseas Development.

More help for the poorest, published yesterday, is the first full policy statement for eight years. It will be prepared to allow recipients to buy goods from other third world countries using British funds.

Overseas Development: The Changing Emphasis of British Aid Policies: More Help for the Poorest: Cmnd. 6570: 50p.

Editorial comment, Page 15

development requires an integrated approach to roads, water supplies, credit facilities, marketing machinery, elementary education and health.

Although normally aid will be tied to the purchase of British goods, the Government says that in "exceptional circumstances" it will be prepared to allow recipients to buy goods from other third world countries using British funds.

Overseas Development: The Changing Emphasis of British Aid Policies: More Help for the Poorest: Cmnd. 6570: 50p.

Editorial comment, Page 15

At the same time aid within these countries will tend to be concentrated on the rural areas where the poorest people usually live.

In 1974 Britain gave 82 per cent. of its bilateral aid to countries in the bracket of income per head beneath \$200. This proportion, according to Mr. Reginald Prentice, the Minister, will slowly increase, especially as the aid is to be made available on grant terms, as was decided earlier this year.

The concentration on rural

development requires an integrated approach to roads, water supplies, credit facilities, marketing machinery, elementary education and health.

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Editorial comment, Page 15

Widow criticises £150 fine on company

THE WIDOW of a lorry driver who died in the fumes of a waste tip where he was discharging chemicals yesterday hit out at the £150 fine imposed on his employers and protested that she had not been allowed to address the court.

Mrs. Linda Carroll, aged 27, who has three children, added that she was considering an approach to her local MP, Mr. Marcus Lipton, about the affair. Land Reclamation, owners of the Pitsea, Essex, tip, where the 35-year-old Mr. Thomas Carroll died in March, earlier had been fined £150 with £150 costs by Billerica magistrates for failing to have a responsible person supervising tipping on the day Mr. Carroll died. The company is part of the Redland-Purle group.

The defence said that Mr. Carroll, from Stockwell, South London, was killed in a "thousand to one" chance when the chemicals he dumped on top of another load interacted and gave off deadly fumes.

Mr. Ronald Schlemmer, counsel for Essex County Council, which brought the charge, said that there was no doubt that if the county council instructions had been followed, "Mr. Carroll would not have been allowed to tip his waste on top of the other."

"There would have been no interaction, there would have been no fumes, there would have been no death." The two wastes should have been kept separate.

Either Mr. Carroll was given no directions about where to dump his waste or he was given inaccurate directions.

Mr. Anthony Scrivenor, QC for the company, said that Mr. Carroll had received the proper documents for dumping his waste. But the company accepted that he was not given the specific instructions he should have received.

BA to cut some fares to Scotland

By Lorne Barling

BRITISH AIRWAYS is to halve some fares between the Midlands and Scotland next month in an effort to become more competitive with British Rail.

A new instant purchase excursion fare, known as IPEX, will be introduced on the Birmingham-Glasgow and Birmingham-Edinburgh routes from November 1, making air travel only slightly more expensive than the return rail fare.

British Airways said yesterday that for an extra £2.60 the journey between Birmingham and Glasgow would be cut from 44 hours by rail to 55 minutes by air. The new fare was aimed at people planning week-end visits to Scotland or the Midlands.

IPEX bookings are accepted after 2 p.m. on the day before travel for a stay of between three and 14 nights. Outward and return journeys must be booked at the same time and stays must include a week-end.

Instead of paying the normal return fare of £22.50, a passenger planning a week-end in Edinburgh, for example, can book an IPEX flight for £22.50 after 2 p.m. on Thursday for a flight the next day, or can return the next Monday or any day within the next two weeks except at week-ends.

Bill to cover Territorials

A PRIVATE member's Bill which would provide redress against the Crown for relatives of Territorial soldiers killed or injured in accidents was given a formal first reading in the Commons yesterday.

ZAMBIA COPPER INVESTMENTS LIMITED (ZCI)

(Incorporated in Bermuda)
REPORT FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER, 1975
(Covering mining company operations for quarter ended 30th June, 1975)

ESTIMATED CONSOLIDATED PROFIT OF ZCI FOR QUARTER ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 1975

	Quarter Ended 30th September, 1975	Year Ended 30th June, 1975
U.S. Dollars '000's	U.S. Dollars '000's	U.S. Dollars '000's
Dividends received or accrued from:		
Nchanga Consolidated Copper Mines Limited (NCCM)	—	10,832
Roan Consolidated Mines Limited (RCM)	—	2,772
Other	—	—
Interest receivable and other revenue, less provisions: (including expenses and foreign taxation)	83	2,802
Adjustments arising from currency fluctuations	(808)	—
Transfer from (to) currency reserve	508	(27)
Surplus on redemption of government loans	291	—
Less: Transfer to capital reserve	(291)	—
Less: Amount written off investment in prospecting companies (see note 3)	—	244
Dividends Declared:		
Amount	—	4,802
Per share	—	4
		(U.S. cents)

NOTES:

1. Dividends:
(a) No dividends were declared by NCCM or RCM for the quarter ended 30th June 1975.
(b) As was announced in the press on 18th August, 1975, and discussed further in the recent Annual Report, in terms of Zambian Exchange Control Regulations dividends amounting to the equivalent of U.S. dollars 10,832,000 declared by NCCM on the "B" shares held by ZCI for the quarters ended 30th June 1974 and 30th September 1974 had been held for the company's account in Kwacha in Zambia and were due to have been externalised after approval of the annual accounts of NCCM for the year ended 31st March 1975.

However, although the company's application for the externalisation of these funds was approved in principle, lack of the necessary foreign exchange resulted in the externalisation being delayed. As and when these funds are externalised and at the date of this report there have been no further developments, the company will be able to give consideration to the possible declaration of a dividend.

Subsequent to the notification of the delay in the externalisation of the above dividend funds, the Zambian Exchange Control Regulations were amended and now provide that dividends remitted by Zambian companies may not exceed 30 per cent (previously 40 per cent) of the net profit attributable to the external shareholders or ten per cent (previously 30 per cent) of the capital of the company attributable to these shareholders, whichever is the lesser.

The company has however been assured by the Zambian authorities that, notwithstanding the imposition of the amended regulations, the NCCM dividend presently held in Zambia will not be affected and that as soon as the necessary foreign exchange is available the company will be able to externalise the funds in full.

However, it is anticipated that the new regulations will be applied to dividends attributable to external shareholders declared by RCM during its year ended 30th June 1975. These dividends, of which the company's share, net of 20 per cent withholding tax, amounts to the equivalent of approximately US Dollars 800,000, are not in excess of the limits imposed by the new regulations. Accordingly the company's share should be remitted when foreign exchange becomes available.

If necessary any further developments will be communicated to shareholders by means of an announcement in the press.

2. Prospecting Expenditure:
No provision has been made for amounts to be written off prospecting investments in respect of the quarter, as this is considered annually at the financial year end.

ZCI has a 49 per cent interest in NCCM and a 22.25 per cent interest in RCM. The estimated results of NCCM and RCM for the quarter ended 30th June 1975 are as follows:

	Quarter Ended 30th June, 1975	Year Ended 31st March, 1975
Production (Metric Tons)		
Finished copper	94,710	408,666
Lead and zinc	15,991	79,506
Sales (Metric Tons)		
Copper	116,390	395,160
Lead and zinc	11,162	75,930
Average copper proceeds (per Metric Ton)	K892	K1,087
Sales revenue—all metals	K100,260,000	K478,400,000
Net profit (loss) after taxation	(K8,500,000)	K33,600,000
Appropriations—capital expenditure	—	K38,000,000
Ordinary dividends (see note 1(a))	—	K17,000,000
Broken Hill division	—	—

	Quarter Ended 30th June, 1975	Year Ended 30th June, 1975
Finished copper produced (Metric Tons)	68,487	288,584
Copper sales (metric tons)	76,704	288,797
Average proceeds (per metric ton)	K795	K912
Sales revenue—all metals	K62,641,000	K269,745,000
Net profit after taxation	K5,906,000	K32,332,000
Dividends (see note 1(a))	—	K6,518,000

By order of the Board
Z. J. De Beer
G. W. H. Kelly | Directors

Pembroke, Bermuda
29th October, 1975
U.K. Registrars:
Charter Consolidated Limited,
P.O. Box 102,
Charter House, Park Street,
Ashford, Kent
TN24 8EQ
South African Registrars:
Consolidated Share Registrars Limited,
63, Marshall Street,
Johannesburg 2001,
P.O. Box 61057,
Marshalltown 2107,
Transvaal,
South Africa.

Registered Office:
Belvedere Building,
Pitts Bay Road,
Pembroke (P.O. Box
650 Hamilton 5),
Bermuda

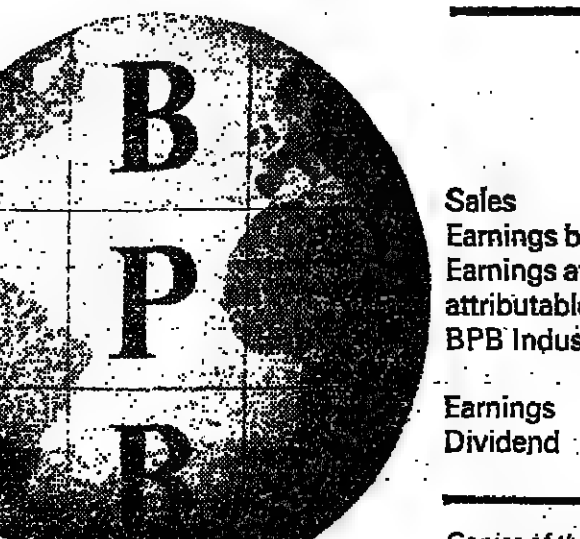
BPB

INDUSTRIES LIMITED

Chairman: N. M. Barrow C.A.

Highlights from Interim Report 1975/6

- ★ Improvement in earnings from UK housing sector
- ★ Significant turnaround in Canadian operation
- ★ Further investment in mainland Europe
- ★ Full year's results should be ahead of last year's at least by increase now reported



	Half-Year to 30.9.75	Half-Year to 30.9.74	Year to 31.3.75
£000	£000	£000	£000
Sales	82,150	67,132	138,880
Earnings before tax	8,978	5,893	11,602
Earnings after tax attributable to BPB Industries Ltd	4,633	2,827	3,663
Earnings	13.3	8.2	15.1
Dividend	3.1	2.9	5.729

Copies of the Interim Report can be obtained from the Secretary at Ferguson House, 15/17 Marylebone Road, London NW1 5JE.

INTERNATIONAL COMPANY NEWS + EURO MARKETS

VW pays the price for hiring turnaround

BY NICHOLAS COLCHESTER

VOLKSWAGEN of West Germany is to increase its work force by some 4,000 workers at the beginning of next year, prompted by a surprising resurgence in the demand for its cars. The management's decision comes only seven months after the new VW chairman, Toni Schmucker, hit the headlines with his decision to shed 25,000 workers in the years 1975 and 1976.

Since August, when Volkswagen had to introduce special shifts to keep up with demand for its new and very successful model the Golf (or Rabbit in the U.S.), it has become steadily clearer that the company's management over-reacted at the beginning of this year to a sales slump that had brought VW a loss of DM807m. in 1974.

Management has had to pay a price to get the Volkswagen works council to agree to the mass hiring that is now to follow the mass firing. It has promised that there will be no forced redundancies in 1976 and that short-time work will not be introduced until at least three months after the last special production shift has taken place.

Last April's measures were regarded as a prime example of the way in which the management of a German semi-

nationalised enterprise must be allowed to take a politically unpleasant decision. The latest news has certainly put the advocates of unbridled management on to the defensive. It has justified the stance of the chairman of the Metal Workers' Union Eugen Loderer, who professed continued faith in the German motor-car market and urged in April that Volkswagen's redundancies be kept to a minimum.

Three factors seemed to have contributed to Volkswagen's about-turn. In the first place the management's April offer of golden handshakes was accepted with surprising speed—so fast, in fact, that the offer in the Volkswagen capital, Wolfsburg, had to be withdrawn at the end of May because it was already over-subscribed. Where Volkswagen's German works employed around 111,000 people at the

BONN, Oct. 29.

beginning of this year, they currently employ 93,000. The German car market has picked up more than was expected at the time when the Volkswagen mass dismissals were announced. In the spring the forecast number of unit sales by German manufacturers was 1.85m.; to-day's estimate is 2.1m. Such a total would make 1975 comparable to the pre-oil embargo year of 1973. Volkswagen will benefit particularly from this sales upturn because its new Golf model has been the motor-car success of the year. The faithful in Wolfsburg even believe that the replacement to the Beetle has at last been found. Finally, the overall rise in the strength of the dollar against the Deutsche-mark has improved the profitability and competitiveness of Volkswagen's important U.S. sales operation.

Berliet short-time plans

PARIS, Oct. 28.

AUTOMOBILES BERLIET is introducing short-time working for about 20,000 workers in its plants on October 30 and 11, November 10 and 12, December 26 and January 2, a company spokesman said.

This reflects the difficulties

faced by the company, which is a member of the Regie Nationale des Usines Renault group, he said. It had a first-half 1975 loss of Frs51.1m. against a profit of Frs5.8m. in the first half of 1974 on turnover of Frs1,800m. (Frs.159bn.), of which Frs881m. (Frs.74m.) was exports.

AEG share price switchback

BY GUY HAWTIN

NOT FOR the first time this year, the more sober observers of the Frankfurt Stock Exchange scene have been puzzling over the enthusiasm some investors are showing for AEG-Telefunken shares. To-day they were trading at DM33.60 per DM50 nominal share—an advance of DM1.40 on the day before.

In the course of this month they have risen to the present price from the low DM70s. At the mid-summer point they were in the DM60s after a spring crescendo had swept them up to the DM90s. At the end of last year they were trading under par.

All this would be fair and dandy if this year's news about AEG—West Germany's second largest electrical concern—had been relatively good. But it has not. In fact this year, not to overstate the case, has been a disappointment.

The group in its annual report announced losses for last year which totalled DM684m. These stemmed largely from its 50 per cent. involvement in Kraftwerk Union, West Germany's largest power station builder.

Hopes that AEG would be able to divest itself of its RWU participation to its partner—and arch rival—Siemens came to naught. They foundered, it is understood, on the issue of Siemens' unwillingness to assume

the liability for future losses arising from the contracts which AEG brought into RWU.

This indicates that AEG is going to have to continue to bear its share of the burden of raising RWU's share capital by an estimated DM300m. Its current DM338m. share capital and reserves is somewhat slender in view of its need to finance an order book predicted to rise from the DM1bn. mark to DM7bn. by the end of the decade.

The attempt to raise cash by the sale of its 38.78 per cent. stake in Osrarn, the Federal Republic's leading light bulb manufacturer, to General Electric of New York was scotched by the third partner in Osrarn—Siemens again. Admittedly the price mentioned for the sale—an alleged DM100m.—seemed pretty low, but AEG is now in the process of negotiating the sale of its Osrarn stake to Siemens, which is in a very strong position.

The positive factors about AEG's development during the course of the year have been psychological rather than financial. Certainly many of the group's subsidiaries have been doing remarkably well, but the real boost has come from a management change which has taken place. AEG now has an energetic new chairman of its supervisory Board, Herr Juer-

FRANKFURT, Oct. 29.

gen Ponto, the dynamic chief executive of the Dresdner Bank. Senior management figures, such as AEG chief executive Dr. Hans Groeche, whose popularity has waned with the profits, are going, however, all this was apparent when the share price was heading towards its nadir late last year.

Setting aside hysterical rumours of imminent takeover—half-witted oil sheiks are the most colourful contenders, according to the rumour-mongers—one explanation is that people who bought at the top of the market in early 1974 are seeking to lower their average buying price of the shares in hopes of turning a short-term loss into a modest medium-term profit. Others are said to be buying them as a long-term recovery prospect.

AEG is, of course, basically a sound concern. There is no fear among analysts here that the giant will go under, but recovery is still a long way off. At its price, the AEG share is well covered by assets and could show investors reasonable gains in the long term. That said, there are better buys around at present, and some analysts believe that AEG has become a speculative share that will show disproportionately large rises and falls in relation to the normal course of the market.

This announcement appears as a matter of record only

COMPANIA NACIONAL DE SUBSISTENCIAS POPULARES (AN AGENCY OF THE UNITED MEXICAN STATES)

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Brandts Limited
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Brostrom profits slump

By John Walker

STOCKHOLM, Oct. 29.

THE BROSTROM shipping concern states in its eight-month interim report that the calculated operating profit, after deductions, amounted to Kr.18m. (\$1.1m.) compared with Kr.189m. in the same period last year. The operating income amounted to Kr.1.1bn. (\$120m.) for the first eight months of this year compared with Kr.1.2bn. in the corresponding period in 1974. One of the main causes for the deterioration is the very poor tanker market. Brostrom reports that one tanker and two OBO ships are laid up, which account for 0.8m. tons.

Liner traffic during the period under review showed a continued deterioration in profits, compared with 1974 which was characterised by a high level of activity. The two cruise ships, Kungsholm and Grispsholm, showed a considerable loss this year. An agreement has been reached for the sale of the Kungsholm and five other ships, while the Grispsholm has been laid up since September.

The earlier forecast that the company would have a positive operating profit after depreciation for this year will have to be revised to some extent. The sale of ships during the year has resulted in better prices than earlier anticipated. The concern forecasts that there will be a surplus before appropriations and taxes for this year's operations.

Poclain first half loss

By Robert Cornwell

PARIS, Oct. 29.

POCLAIN, the troubled French manufacturer of earth-moving equipment to-day reported a first half loss of Frs60.3m. (\$6.8m.) in the first half of this year, against a profit of Frs25.8m. for the same period of last year.

The figures, which were greeted on the Bourse to-day by a drop of Frs6 in Poclain shares, came after Frs13.8m. of depreciation charges, and Frs32.5m. of provisions for portfolio depreciation and other risks. Sales in the first nine months also dropped slightly to Frs961m. (\$106m.) from Frs989m.

The figures go a long way to explain the co-operation talks now under way at the behest of the Industry Ministry here, between Poclain and the light engineering group Ferodo. So far, the discussions are at a preliminary stage, and just a week ago a Ferodo spokesman emphasised that it was still far from certain at that stage whether anything concrete would emerge.

Nonetheless the size of the loss announced by Poclain can only make its need for external support all the more pressing.

AGC outstrips competitors with strong earnings recovery

BY JAMES FORTH

SYDNEY, Oct. 29.

AUSTRALIAN GUARANTEE CORPORATION (AGC), Australia's major finance company, easily outstripped its competitors with a 26 per cent. boost in profit from \$A17.5m. to \$A22.7m. To celebrate the company's fifth anniversary the company has added a bonus dividend of 2.5 cents a share to the usual final payment of 3.75 cents, lifting the payment from 7.5 cents to 10 cents.

Moreover, shares from a one-for-four bonus issue earlier this year, also to celebrate 50 years, will receive the full final dividend.

The profit returns 19.9 cents a share on capital increased by the bonus, providing virtually double cover for the increased payout.

The AGC result contrasts markedly with those of other large finance companies. Earnings of Associated Securities fell 66 per cent. Mercantile Credits 54 per cent. Alliance Holdings 25.5 per cent. Commercial and General Acceptance 22 per cent. while IAG Holdings recently reported a dip of 12 per cent. in earnings for the first half.

AGC's performance indicated a strong revival from the stagnant profit level of the previous year when earnings marked time. It reflects the expansion of lending activities by the group, evidenced by a 10 per cent. rise in gross receivables to \$A1.35bn. In the first six months of the year receivables held steady at \$A1.23bn.

Directors said another factor was that increases in lending became more effective and tended to restore the previous margin over borrowing rates.

The result was after a lift in tax from \$A13.5m. to \$A16.5m. It was also after a sharp jump in net losses written off from

\$A23m. to \$A7.5m. Directors said the extent of bad debts written off was a reflection of current economic difficulties faced by the industry generally. The possibility of further abnormal write-offs could not be totally discounted until a higher level of confidence and activity returned to business.

For this reason the Board decided to make "rigorous" write-offs while at the same time not reducing the group provision of \$A5.6m. for doubtful debts or the provision of \$A3.5m. for contingencies.

Directors said customer interest unpaid of \$A2.8m. and interest not realised on development projects of \$A900,000 had not been taken into account. No interest on development projects had been capitalised.

Adverse influences in the latest year concluded comprising increases in borrowing and

administrative costs and a further loss by the colour television rental subsidiary, Vision hire.

Net profit of the insurance subsidiary rose from \$A421,000 to \$A1,150, mainly because of a drop in the underwriting loss from \$A2.3m. to \$A1m. Premium income was boosted from \$A34.9m. to \$A47.2m.

Looking ahead directors said the level of activity was hard to predict. Investors confidence in AGC was currently providing adequate funds for the group's needs and the demand for financial services was satisfactory.

Receivables could be expected to grow, but much of the money value increase would be illusory due to inflation. Expenses were expected to escalate to a greater extent than increases in lending rates but given the anticipated growth next year, profits should be maintained.

Hitachi expects boost in pre-tax profit

TOKYO, Oct. 29.

HITACHI expects a 30 per cent. increase in its pre-tax profit to Y17bn. for the first half year to September 30 from Y8.9bn. in the preceding six months because of better sales of colour TV's, other appliances and electronic parts, a company spokesman said.

Gross sales will total about Y340bn., a 6 per cent. rise from Y320bn. in the preceding half year.

Net income, however, will be about the same level as the

Y8.9bn. of the previous six months, following increased tax payments and the replenishment of severance and other reserves.

Exports of colour TV's rose mainly because of better sales in the U.S., the spokesman said. The company is now working at 65 per cent. of capacity, from 75 per cent. last term, following an inventory adjustment last spring.

The company said that it hopes to declare an unchanged interim dividend of Y2.5 per share.

Ban lifted on DM Eurobonds

BY MARY CAMPBELL

IN A surprise move yesterday,

the capital markets sub-committee which supervises the German international bond market, decided that the ban on receipt of foreign borrowings should be lifted at the end of this month.

The market in general had been expecting the ban to continue at least until the German Federal Government and federal agencies had made an issue in the German domestic

bond market. Only yesterday, Herr Ulrich, spokesman for the board of Deutsche Bank, said in a widely publicised speech: "For the time being unfortunately, the time being unfortunately, foreign borrowers cannot expect the ban on foreign D-mark bond issues to be lifted due to the high public sector financing requirement in Germany."

Market sources suggest that the market is likely to start up cautiously, perhaps with a DM150m. issue for the European

Investment Bank and the two planned private placements of DM50m. for the Asian Development Bank and the American Development Bank which were prevented by the imposition of the ban on further issues last July.

It appears that no fixed limit on volume has been imposed for November, and some issues by borrowers which are not multinational institutions may be arranged late in the month. Market sources suggest that the volume of new issues and placements in December will be around DM300m.

The prices of outstanding foreign issues in the German market have been very firm recently with five-year top quality bonds yielding little more than 8 per cent. in general, and in a few favoured cases less. Since last week's decision by the Bundesbank to adopt a more flexible attitude towards the federal sector of the domestic market, prices there too have stabilised, though at significantly lower levels than before the change of policy.

The Bundesbank has even been able to start selling federal bonds again at these lower levels, market sources report. Yields on foreign bonds now below those on federal issues in the domestic market, it was apparently felt that the foreign sector could be re-opened without prejudicing investment from domestic sources in federal issues.

Nearly \$3bn. was raised by non-German borrowers on the D-mark bond markets between January and July. This is about a third of the total volume of international bonds issued outside the United States this year.

Soviets co-manage Argentine loan

BY MARY CAMPBELL

IN ITS SECOND excursion into

management of medium-term Eurodollar loans within a couple of months, the Soviet Bank for Foreign Trade is one of three joint lead managers of a financing for Argentina which is currently being syndicated. The other lead managers are Citicorp International and Lloyds Bank International.

The total size of the financing is \$50m. The proceeds will be used for down-payments on Soviet exports to Argentina.

The borrowers are two Argentine electricity utilities, Empresa Electrica (AYEE) which is taking \$37m. of the total, and Servicios Electricos del Gran Buenos Aires (SEGBA), which is taking \$13m. The loan will be guaranteed by Banco Nacional de Desarrollo,

the Argentine national development bank.

The only other Eurodollar medium-term loan where the Soviet Bank for Foreign Trade is known to have been a co-manager was the \$150m. loan for the Turkish company Botas which was signed earlier this month. No Soviet exports were involved in the case of the Turkish loan.

The overall cost of the Soviet exports to the Argentine which are involved in the current financing will be about \$32m. They include equipment such as turbines and boilers which will be used to expand generating capacity at three different thermal power stations, two belonging to AYEE and one to SEGBA.

Market sources suggest that the terms of the loan include a five-year maturity and substantial spreads and participation fees.

Two U.S. companies cut Swiss production

BY JOHN WICKS

ZURICH, Oct. 29.

AS PART of a group-wide conversion from electro-mechanical to electronic products, the NCR Corporation has decided to close down its manufacturing operations in Buelach, Switzerland, as from next February. The manufacturing subsidiary, NCR (Schweiz), will continue its paper processing and printing operations in Buelach. Despite rationalisation and savings measures over recent months, the subsidiary is reported to have incurred massive losses due to the over-valuation of the Swiss Franc. This monetary situation has also made the group management decide to set up elsewhere new product lines originally intended for Buelach.

The Swiss company is said to be investigating the possibility of setting up production installations for non-NCR products in the vacant capacity at Buelach or, alternatively, moving the sub-

diary's technical services department from Zurich to Buelach. Some 180 persons will be affected by the Buelach decision, the company to offer the chance of jobs elsewhere in NCR and training schemes to instruct suitable staff in data processing techniques.

Another company, Helena Rubinstein AG, announces the decision of its European management to stop cosmetics production in Switzerland in January, 1976. Some 60 employees will be affected by this move, intended to rationalise European activities. About one-half of Helena Rubinstein's production is currently accounted for by export sales, which are said to be declining and further jeopardised as a result of the high Swiss Franc exchange rate. The home market does not itself justify the retention of production activities at Spreitenbach, near Zurich.

Austrian banking moves

BY PAUL LENDVAI

VIENNA, Oct. 29.

CREDIT ANSTALT Bankverein has acquired the entire Sch.10m. capital of Brunell-Kalms, a small private banking house. Hitherto a 60 per cent. interest was held by Anglo-Elementar Insurance.

The take over illustrates the trend towards growing concentration in the banking sector. Credit Anstalt recently purchased a 20 per cent. minority interest in a leasing company, thus acquiring total control since it already held a majority holding.

Meanwhile, there has been a significant management reshuffle at Austria's second largest credit

institute, the Girozentrale, which is the central institute of the Austrian Savings Banks. Following the election of Dr. Josef Taus, who has headed the bank since 1968, as chairman of the Austrian Peoples Party the supervisory Board unanimously nominated Dr. Karl Fale, 49, previously a member of the Board of directors to be the new chairman of the Board and director-general. Dr. Fale, originally a legal expert, has been with the Girozentrale for 15 years. Mr. Karl Ludwig, in charge of the credit service, was elected as a new member of the four-man executive Board.

Gulf and Western earnings u

By Jay Palmer

NEW YORK, Oct.

GULF AND Western Industries of the larger U.S. conglomerates, this morning reported sales and earnings for both the third and the full year ending July.

G and W said that the growth stemmed from its factoring, food and agriculture products and natural resources division, which, together with other operations, reported record returns. Factors to this were L. Products (Films) which, ahead, though not to a record, and Financial Services which posted a loss.

In the May-July quarter, W said the net earnings rose per cent. to \$88.6m. listing diluted earnings per share from 74 cents to 85 cents. Over the three months to \$678m. from \$639m. over the 12 months. The cm. revealed that net earnings to a new record of \$14.1m., per cent. from the previous record of \$10.6m. Diluted earnings per share rose \$2.68 to \$3.67, while sales rose to a record \$2.6bn. from \$2.2bn.

While the company did spell out the specific part made by each of its divisions it did report the individual percentage gains. Manufacturing profits were up 95 per cent. (thanks to oil products demand for the food products) of 38 per cent. and the resources rise of 16 per cent. Leisure products rose 60 per cent. on the success of films as "Chinatown," "The Godfather Part II," "The Godfather Part III," "The Godfather Part IV," "The Godfather Part V," "The Godfather Part VI," "The Godfather Part VII," "The Godfather Part VIII," "The Godfather Part IX," "The Godfather Part X," "The Godfather Part XI," "The Godfather Part XII," "The Godfather Part XIII," "The Godfather Part XIV," "The Godfather Part XV," "The Godfather Part XVI," "The Godfather Part XVII," "The Godfather Part XVIII," "The Godfather Part XIX," "The Godfather Part XX," "The Godfather Part XXI," "The Godfather Part XXII," "The Godfather Part XXIII," "The Godfather Part XXIV," "The Godfather Part XXV," "The Godfather Part XXVI," "The Godfather Part XXVII," "The Godfather Part XXVIII," "The Godfather Part XXIX," "The Godfather Part XXX," "The Godfather Part XXXI," "The Godfather Part XXXII," "The Godfather Part XXXIII," "The Godfather Part XXXIV," "The Godfather Part XXXV," "The Godfather Part XXXVI," 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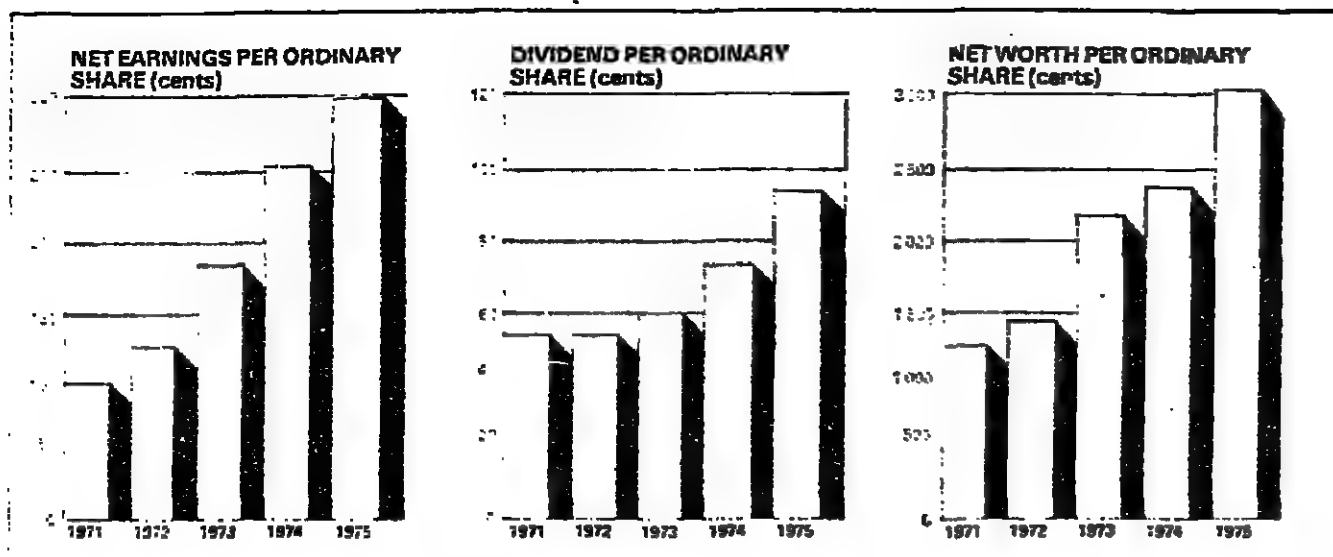
Development Capital Investments Limited
88 Baker Street, London W1M 1DL



ANGLOVAAL

Chairman's review

Record Group profits; improved earnings and dividends expected — Mr Basil E. Hersov



	Company		Consolidated	
	1975	1974	1975	1974
Profit after taxation	R7 044 000	R5 377 000	R26 659 000	R25 071 000
Dividends paid	R4 417 000	R3 455 000	R4 359 000	R3 455 000
Earnings per ordinary share*	156 cents	124 cents	296 cents	253 cents
Dividends per ordinary share	95 cents	75 cents	95 cents	75 cents
Investments				
Listed:				
Book value	R29 344 000	R28 523 000	R32 119 000	R33 026 000
Market value	R86 775 000	R78 674 000	R108 975 000	R63 476 000
Unlisted:				
Book value	R11 320 000	R10 770 000	R18 536 000	R10 787 000

* 1975 earnings per share are based on 100 million shares in issue and on a 100 million share basis.

Financial results

The consolidated taxed profit for the year ended 30 June 1975 attributable to members was R12 855 000, an increase of 20 per cent on last year's R10 729 000. Net earnings per ordinary share increased by 17 per cent to 296 cents per share. The increased earnings this year were mainly attributable to higher dividend income from the Group's mining investments and to the inclusion of six months' results of Middle Witwatersrand (Western Areas) Limited ("Midwits"), which became a subsidiary on 1 January 1975. As at 30 June, the net asset value per ordinary share was 3 001 cents per share (1974 — 2 375 cents per share).

The Company's own earnings were 156 cents per share, an increase of 26 per cent on last year's 124 cents per share and the ordinary dividend was increased by 27 per cent from 75 cents to 95 cents per share.

Investments

During the year under review there was an increase in the market value of the listed shares in the Company's portfolio which at the year-end was worth R86 775 000, compared to R78 674 000 at the end of the previous financial year. The book value of the listed

shares was R29 344 000 and the book value of unlisted investments was R11 320 000. However, since the end of the financial year there has been a substantial and general fall in share prices on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange and as at the date of this review, the market value of the listed shares is R67 148 000. On the basis of listed shares at market value and unlisted shares at book value, the combined portfolio of this Company and all its financial subsidiaries, including Midwits, at the year-end had a value of R127 511 000 (as at 30 September 1975 — R101 030 000). As a result of Midwits becoming a subsidiary, the combined interests of the Company and Midwits made Prieska Copper Mines (Proprietary) Limited and Atok Platinum Mines (Proprietary) Limited subsidiaries as from 1 January 1975.

Mining interests

On 18 September 1975, agreements were signed between The Associated Manganese Mines of South Africa Limited ("Assamang") and the United States Steel Corporation ("U.S. Steel") whereby Assamang will export 3 000 000 tons a year of iron ore to U.S. Steel for a period of fifteen years. U.S. Steel will lend Assamang up to US \$6 000 000 to help finance the expansion of that company's iron

ore production. U.S. Steel has also subscribed for ordinary shares in Assamang equivalent to 10 per cent of its increased issued capital at a cost of R25 per share, aggregating R500 000. Assamang was formed in 1935, has been exporting manganese ore since that time and iron ore since 1960. Currently it is exporting about 800 000 tons of iron ore and 2 000 000 tons of manganese ore annually through Port Elizabeth and the completion of the Sishen-Saldanha line will make possible further development of Assamang's iron and manganese ore deposits in the north-western Cape. The recent financial results of Assamang and its subsidiary, Ferrelloys Limited, which produces and exports ferro-alloys, are currently at record levels.

The considerable fall during the year in the London Metal Exchange copper price from about £980 per ton to about £600 per ton resulted in a reduction of Prieska Copper Mines' working profit from R11 840 000 to R1 258 000 and, after taking into account interest payments, there was a deficit of R1 711 000 for the year. Current copper prices in real terms are at levels that have not prevailed for many years and it is too early to say whether or not there is yet a rising trend. The prices received by Prieska for its zinc remained fairly stable throughout the year.

The increase in Atok's production to a rate equivalent to 40 000 ozs. of platinum group metals annually was adversely affected by delays in the supply and commissioning of plant and equipment and the planned milling rate was only achieved in May 1975. The market survey, to which I referred last year, was updated during the year and studies into the further development of the mine continue. Platinum and palladium prices remained during the year as Western economies felt the full blast of a major world recession. Palladium in particular suffered and it now appears that the previous high prices for this metal might have driven consumers in certain key areas to new technologies. Recently there has been an increase in the producer price for platinum from \$155 to \$170 an ounce.

Gold price

The rise of the gold price witnessed in recent years has been followed by a drastic fall which has been tempered to some extent by the recent devaluation of the Rand. This, coupled with considerable rises in mining costs flowing from inflation, is leading to a serious situation for mines with lower grade ores. The Lorraine gold mine recently announced a modification of the expansion programme mentioned in my review last year, and the future of Village Main Reef gold mine under present conditions is very uncertain. Efforts are constantly being made on our mines to counteract the unfavourable factors mentioned above and it is gratifying to report considerable progress recently in improved training and utilisation of our mine personnel, leading to increased productivity and cost reduction.

The mineral exploration activities of the Group are at a higher level than for many years. Base mineral exploration is in progress in all four provinces of the Republic, with special emphasis on the Transvaal and Cape Province, where several potentially interesting prospects are being examined. Investigations of gold prospects are in progress in the Eastern Transvaal and the Orange Free State, while coal occurrences are also receiving considerable attention.

Members are aware that the Anglovaal Laboratory has made many valuable contributions to the mining industry, particularly in the area of mineral beneficiation and recoveries. Arising from Anglovaal's involvement in platinum mining through Atok, research covering all aspects of the refining processes after the smelter stage was undertaken. This has already resulted in the development of a completely new patented process for refining the platinum group metals which brings about a significant reduction in the process time for the production of refined metals. At the same time, work in the leaching and refining of copper and nickel from a smelter matte is continuing and some final patent applications in this area have already been lodged.

Extracts from the Directors' report

Financial

The Company earned a profit after taxation of R7 044 000 compared with R5 377 000 in 1974 and its net earnings per ordinary share rose to 156 cents (1974 — 124 cents), of which 95 cents (1974 — 75 cents) were declared as dividends. Consolidated profit after taxation attributable to members increased by R2 126 000 to R12 855 000. The consolidated after-tax profit of the industrial subsidiaries was lower than for the previous year due mainly to the shipbuilding losses incurred by James Brown & Hamer Limited, the lower profits of T. W. Beckett & Company Limited and to the higher incidence of taxation resulting from lower tax allowances received this year.

The profit after taxation attributable to members of the Company was earned from the following classes of business:

	Consolidated	Company	1975	1974	1975	1974
	1975	1974	1975	1974	1975	1974
Gold and uranium	29	24	45	44		
Other minerals and metals	15	11	24	21		
Food and packaging	18	20	11	14		
Building and allied industries	3	7	4	6		
Engineering	10	15	6	9		
Other industrial interests	20	20	5	5		
Financial	5	3	5	1		

Mining investments

Middle Witwatersrand (Western Areas) Limited ("Midwits"), the mining investment and exploration company, became a subsidiary of Anglo-Transvaal Consolidated Investment Company, Limited on 1 January 1975 and has changed its financial year end to 30 June. The consolidated profit, after tax, of Midwits for the eighteen months ended 30 June 1975 was R8 209 000, compared with R3 495 000 for the twelve months ended 31 December 1973. Included in these figures were net profits on realisation of investments of R1 006 000 (1973 — R854 000). Ordinary dividends aggregating 42 cents (1973 — 12 cents) per share were paid for the eighteen months' period and dividends were paid on the 8 per cent "A" and "B" preference shares. Exploratory expenditure amounted to R407 000 (1973 — R212 000). The market values of the listed investments of Midwits and its subsidiaries Roodersand Main Reef Mines Limited, Tram Investments (Proprietary) Limited and Harmony Lands and Minerals Limited at 30 June 1975 were R67 956 000 (book value R16 106 000), compared with R58 057 000 (book value R14 471 000) at 31 December 1973.

Despite a lower tonnage throughput, a reduction in grade and a considerable increase in costs, the higher gold prices received by

Hartebeestfontein Gold Mining Company Limited resulted in a profit for the year ended 30 June 1975 of R33 650 000 (1974 — R30 399 000). With inflationary pressures still strong and with sharp increases in the gold price less likely than during the past two or three years, the present dividend of 215 cents (1974 — 160 cents) per share is unlikely to be maintained.

Zandpan Gold Mining Company Limited's future prospects remain directly dependent on those of Hartebeestfontein Gold Mining Company Limited by virtue of its holding of 2 200 000 shares in Hartebeestfontein. These shares, with a market value of R71 500 000 on 30 June 1975, constitute the company's principal asset and investment. Profits for the year amounted to R4 686 000 and dividends totalling R4 655 000 were declared, equivalent to 35.75 cents per share, which compares with 37.8 cents per share for the eighteen months ended 30 June 1974.

Because of the substantially higher gold revenue, profit at Lorraine Gold Mines Limited for the financial year ended 30 September 1974 rose to R12 967 000 (1973 — R1 403 000). During the year, there was a considerable reduction in the supply of black labour and efforts were made to attract a larger percentage of South African blacks by means of improved job opportunities and higher wages.

In September 1975, due to an unprecedented rise in working costs, the reduced rate of growth in the gold price and shortages of black employees, a reduced dividend of 6 cents (1974 — 12 cents) was declared. The prospects of working the "B" and Basal reefs on a large scale have also diminished and as more selective mining may be necessary this could lead to a reduction in the planned rate of increase of tonnage milled. It was therefore decided that a more conservative programme for the expansion scheme would be adopted. Although the completion of No. 4 and 5 shafts as previously planned is still envisaged, the new milling plant at No. 3 shaft will be deferred until a clearer picture on the gold price and cost trends emerges and more development values on "B" and Basal reefs are to hand. The ultimate monthly milling target of 200 000 tons may have to be modified, but it is still expected that a milling rate of 130 000 tons per month will be reached by the end of 1976.

Operations at Eastern Transvaal Consolidated Mines Limited for the year ended 30 June 1975 resulted in a working profit before taxation of R3 362 000 (1974 — R3 644 000). Although a higher gold price was received by the mine, the additional revenue — when compared with the previous year — was more than offset by the rise in working costs arising from the substantial wage increases granted to all employees as well as to the higher cost of stores and services. An increased dividend of 25 cents (1974 — 20 cents) per share was paid.

Because of reductions in tonnage milled and recovery grade, and substantial cost increases, Village Main Reef Gold Mining Company (1934) Limited sustained a working loss of R263 000

for the year ended 30 June 1975 (1974 — profit R473 000). The final taxed profit was R355 000 after taking into account financial assistance from the State, non-mining income and compensation received for the expropriation of freehold land. No dividend was declared.

Operations at Rand Leases (Vogelstruisfontein) Gold Mining Company Limited continue to be confined to building maintenance, caretaking, grassing of dumps and pollution prevention. Income for the year exceeded expenditure by R45 000 but this included R33 000 from the sale of freehold property. The effects of inflation, particularly on the cost of plant and equipment, have worsened the chances of re-opening the mine and unless conditions change materially, no consideration can be given to this possibility.

As anticipated last year, lower copper prices and higher working costs had a marked effect on the results achieved by Prieska Copper Mines (Proprietary) Limited. The working profit for the year to 30 June 1975 dropped to R1 258 000, compared with R11 840 000 in the previous financial year. After transferring R1 000 000 from the price fluctuation reserve created last year and taking into account interest payments of R3 091 000, the company incurred a loss of R1 711 000 (1974 — profit R8 985 000), which has been set off against the general reserve. The balance of R1 790 000 standing to the credit of this account has been transferred to non-distributable reserves, representing as it does investment in fixed assets. Revenue from copper concentrates and sales of blister copper and electrolytic copper wirebars at an average price of £594 per ton (1974 — £552) contributed 52 per cent of total revenue, while zinc concentrates and zinc metal sales at an average price of £355 per ton (1974 — £393) accounted for 45 per cent of total revenue. The production and sales of pyrite, which commenced during the year under review, and the sale of lead concentrates, provided useful contributions to revenue.

Atok Platinum Mines (Proprietary) Limited experienced delays in reaching its new planned rate of production equivalent to 40 000 ozs. of platinum group metals annually. The vertical shaft has now been commissioned and the mine's production capability will be further enhanced and costs reduced when the changeover from diesel generated power to Eskom power is effected in a few months' time. As a result of the greatly increased rate of inflation which took place in South Africa during the construction of the expanded facility, the capital cost of plant extensions escalated from approximately R2 200 000 to R3 200 000. With lower prices prevailing through much of the year for the eight metals produced by Atok, revenue receipts did not reach planned levels and with increased costs, Atok has experienced liquidity problems. These have now been met by restructuring the capital and obtaining additional overdraft facilities. The loan by Africa Triangle Mining, Prospecting & Development Company (Proprietary) Limited of R2 654 309 will be converted into equity capital. In addition, shareholders will

Industrial interests

Trading conditions in industry generally during the past year were difficult, with raw material costs in some cases more than doubled and decisions regarding stock levels largely influenced by market uncertainty. At the same time, industry was faced with the need to modernise and extend plant to cope with increased volumes and the need to provide the greatly increased working capital for the expanded operations. These changes, coupled with inflationary increases in wages and most other costs, made budgets and estimates unrealistic. Generally speaking, however, the industrial companies in the Group adapted to these changes in the environment in a responsible and satisfactory manner and were in many instances able to continue to increase profits.

Despite these problems and the major setbacks suffered by James Brown & Hamer Limited and T. W. Beckett & Company Limited, which are dealt with in the Directors' report, consolidated pre-tax profit of Anglo-Transvaal Industries Limited and its subsidiaries for the year ended 30 June 1975 was maintained at approximately the same level as the previous year. The higher incidence of taxation was offset by the reduced interest of the outside shareholders, and most profit attributable to the ordinary shareholders of Anglo-Transvaal Industries Limited was R9 632 000 compared with R9 855 000 in the previous year. Although the company is budgeting for increased profits, the extent of the improvement will depend on trading conditions during the current year.

The Government is considering measures to curb inflation and, although the Group fully shares the Government's concern with inflation, it is hoped that the authorities will recognise business realities in the application of any measures taken and not sacrifice long-term viability for short-term expediency which would only be of temporary benefit to consumers. It is imperative, if employment opportunities are to be created and shareholders are to receive a fair return on their investment, that companies be permitted profit margins adequate to provide the funds for the modernisation and expansion of their plants and also for their increased working capital requirements.

Conclusion

The results for the year under review were a testament to our plans. However, inflationary trends during the current year threaten to concern all our companies and this, coupled with producer prices that are either falling or keep in step with rising costs by an equally falling behind, presents the greatest challenge that management has had to face for some years. The impact and effect of the recent devaluation and its implications on our Group companies has yet to be fully assessed, but initial reactions are that although there will be immediate benefits to Group companies exporting minerals and products, it will increase inflation, diminish the hopes for improvement in trading conditions and thus affect overall profitability. The diversified structure of the Anglovaal Group continues to constitute a basic strength in that its income is derived from both the international demand for gold and platinum, copper and zinc, manganese and iron, platinum and antimony, as well as the demand within South Africa for the wide range of products and services produced by its Group companies. Depending on the prices received for our products, the availability of raw materials and our ability to keep ahead of the unusually rapid changes in economic conditions, we are budgeting for increased earnings and dividends during the financial year.

Basil Hersov

provide a further R530 000 by way of additional equity in order to fund the exercise of an option of 90 000 per cent of the mineral rights of the farm Dismal No. 422 K.S. district Lydenburg. This farm adjoins the farm Middelpunt No. 420 K.S. over which a mining lease is held by Atok and on which mining operations are conducted. During the past year, a market survey previously conducted on a world-wide basis was updated. Studies into the further development of the company's mineral assets continue.

The consolidated profit before taxation for the year ended 31 December 1974 of The Associated Manganese Mines of South Africa Limited and its main subsidiary Ferrelloys Limited was R10 061 000 (1973 — R9 802 000) and dividends totalling 41 cents per share (1973 — 30 cents) were paid. The demand for all the company's products remained firm and prices for these products, especially in the latter half of that year, improved considerably. The sales outlook for the current year remains encouraging and the consolidated profit before taxation for the six months to 30 June 1975 amounted to R10 826 000. An increased interim dividend of 30 cents per share (1974 — 12.5 cents) was declared. Negotiations with United States Steel Corporation ("U.S. Steel") announced by the company on 28 February 1975 were finalised on 18 September 1975. Agreements reached provide for the company to sell to U.S. Steel 3 000 000 tons of iron ore annually for a period of 15 years.

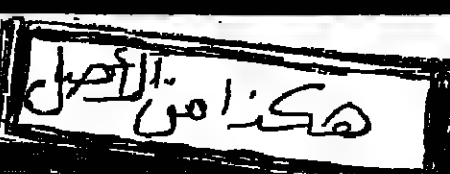
Resulting from the strong demand and sharply improved prices for antimony during 1974, the after-tax profit earned by Consolidated Manganese Limited during the year ended 31 December 1974 rose to R11 784 000 (1973 — R5 007 000) and dividends totalling 130 cents (1973 — 57.5 cents) per share were paid. Since the beginning of 1975, however, the market for antimony has weakened considerably and the pre-tax profit for the six months ended 30 June 1975 was R3 250 000. A reduced interim dividend of 20 cents (1974 — 30 cents) per share was declared.

The investment of Anglo-Transvaal Collieries Limited in Witbank Colliery Limited ("Witbank") was substantially the same as in the previous year. As the company's income is dependent on its investment in Witbank, and as the dividend paid on Witbank ordinary shares did not exceed 25 cents per share, in terms of the Scheme of Arrangement with Witbank no dividend was received by the company from Witbank. The preference dividend of 6 per cent and an unchanged ordinary dividend aggregating 10 cents per share were paid from distributable reserves.

Industrial investments

Anglo-Transvaal Industries Limited and its subsidiary companies achieved a turnover of R344 000 000 (1974 — R282 000 000), the increase being due partly to inflation and partly to volume increases. The group earned a pre-tax profit of R27 683 000 for the year ended 30 June 1975 (1974 — R28 295 000), the decrease being due to reduced profits at T. W.

هكذا من الأصل



Extracts from the Directors' report (continued)

...Company Limited and the shipbuilding losses of 100 000 at James Brown & Hamer Limited. Taxation of 178 000 (1974 - R8 644 000) was at a higher effective rate than the previous year, but the effect on shareholders' earnings was by the reduction in the outside shareholders' interests from 15 000 in 1974 to R7 778 000 in the 1975 financial year. Taxed profits attributable to ordinary shareholders were R9 652 000 - R8 885 000 and earnings were reduced from 78 cents per share to 70 cents per share. The company's taxed profit increased R2 781 000 to R3 396 000, equivalent to 23 cents per share, primarily to increased dividends from subsidiary companies; ordinary dividend payments increased from 14 cents to 16 cents.

A consolidated pre-tax profit of South Atlantic Corporation and its subsidiary companies for the year ended 30 June was R14 524 000 (1974 - R16 310 000). After providing for the interests of outside shareholders, the consolidated profit was R5 773 000 (1974 - R7 475 000). The reasons for the increase in profit were the setbacks suffered by two of the mines in the group, namely James Brown & Hamer Limited and W. Beckett & Company Limited. The company nevertheless secured its ordinary dividend from 12 cents to 14 cents per share.

A satisfactory year of operations under difficult conditions is evidenced in a 17 per cent increase in the consolidated after-tax profit of Irvin & Johnson Limited to R5 820 000. The ordinary dividend was increased to 7 cents (1974 - 5.5 cents) per share from 6.5 cents (1974 - 5.5 cents) per share. Both the tonnage caught by the trawling fleet and trading conditions in the fishery gave cause for optimism during the first half of the year, but months catches dropped significantly and it also became increasingly difficult to maintain profit margins on the company's sales because of the combined effects of competition and resistance. Sales of vegetables throughout the year were disappointing, some supplies being limited by bad weather, but a partly offset by good sales of the main franchise product, chicken.

A consolidated taxed profit of T. W. Beckett & Company Limited for the year ended 30 June 1975 of R915 000 was substantially lower than the taxed earnings of R1 806 000 for the 1974 year. This reduction in profit arose from the difficult conditions encountered during the year. Market conditions generally shown signs of improvement and provided this trend continued, it is anticipated that the company will improve in the current year. The company paid a dividend of 11 974 - 10.5 cents) per share.

Continuation of the depressed prices for fish meal in world markets, which became evident in 1974, was responsible for a drop in the turnover of the company's fish meal division. The company's turnover during the past financial year, however, lower raw material costs and effective control of expenses enabled the company to maintain its after-tax profit of R224 000 (1974 - R237 000) and pay a dividend of R200 000 (1974 - R200 000). No improvement in overseas prices is yet indicated in the results for the coming year will be dependent to a great extent on reasonable prices and good demand in the local market.

Results of Globe Engineering Works Limited and its subsidiaries, James Brown & Hamer Limited and Shipwrights Engineers Holdings Limited, are largely dependent on their work in the marine engineering field. After-tax consolidated profit of the Globe group of companies for the year ended 30 June 1975 was R2 455 000 lower than the previous year, due to a sharp reduction in ship repair work on the Cape Town docks as a result of the cutback in marketing the Cape sea routes, which led to a reduction in Globe Engineering Works Limited's after-tax profits from R3 054 000 to R2 455 000. Secondly, the results of the Durban-based subsidiary James Brown & Hamer Limited were affected by losses on ship contracts aggregating R3 500 000, partially offset by a R503 000 being the reversal of claims raised in previous years. The positive side, James Brown & Hamer Limited's ship-repair division has had a highly successful year while the Veresed subsidiary, Broderick Investments Limited, recorded improvement in consolidated profit after tax. Shipwrights Engineers Holdings Limited, due largely to improvements in building operations, recorded a marginally increased profit, adversely affected in its shipwrighting operations by a reduction in available work. It is not expected that there will be any dramatic improvement in the availability of ship repair work in South African ports during the coming year, but the company is nevertheless budgeting for increased profits, particularly the losses arising from the fixed-price contracts referred to above. The company declared an unchanged dividend of 25 cents.

Results for glass containers - the main product of Chaswell Works Limited - remained strong throughout the year. The turnover rose by 37 per cent to R66 000 000. Sales volume accounted for 11 per cent and higher selling prices for the remainder. Due to exceptional and mainly imported cost escalations recovered in increased selling prices, and to a higher rate of taxation, consolidated taxed profits improved by only 1 per cent to R6 640 000, equivalent to earnings of 43 cents (1974 - 42 cents) per share. With the group's heavy commitments in respect of expenditure and working capital requirements, the dividend is maintained at 19 cents per share. Although the economic situation is at its most difficult, the company is planning for a modest increase in sales and profits, the latter from productivity improvements envisaged for the future.

Escalations in steel prices and wages during the year led to a substantial price increase for the fasteners produced by Bolts Limited. The increased selling prices, together with a rise in sales volumes, increased turnover by 26 per cent to R1 000 000. The commissioning of new plant and equipment during the year enabled production rates to be improved materially and, with full plant utilisation for most of the year, profit levels increased. With a lower incidence of taxation, the consolidated earnings for ordinary shareholders improved to R1 717 000, equivalent to 35 cents (1974 - 23 cents) per share. Increased working capital requirements flowing from the high rate of inflation necessitated additional profit retentions and an ordinary dividend of 14 cents (1974 - 12 cents) per share was declared.

In a year of high activity, and considerable inflation, the turnover of Steelmetals Limited, which is an engineering supplier and contractor, rose by 27 per cent to R25 000 000. All divisions participated in this increase and, with rigid control of costs and a slightly reduced incidence of taxation, consolidated taxed profits increased by 46 per cent to R1 852 000, equivalent to earnings of 87 cents per share. Increased working capital requirements necessitated a continued high rate of profit retention and the dividend was raised by 43 per cent to 25 cents per share.

Claude Neon Lights (S.A.) Limited continued to enjoy an increased demand for its products, despite tight money conditions and high interest rates, and consolidated taxed profit increased to R462 000 (1974 - R428 000). The ordinary dividend was increased to 4.5 cents (1974 - 4.0 cents) per share.

Denver Metal Works (Proprietary) Limited - which produces non-ferrous castings, extrusions and stampings - experienced mixed market conditions during the year. Demand for bronze products, supplied primarily to the mining industry, remained at a high level, but brass and copper sales declined significantly in line with the marked downturn in the building industry and generally depressed conditions in export markets. The reduced throughput, together with continued cost escalations, resulted in a drop in consolidated taxed profits from R646 000 in 1974 to R358 000 in 1975.

The consolidated taxed profit of Petrocol Limited and its subsidiaries for the year was R227 000 (1974 - R468 000). The market for road binders was affected by the exceptionally wet weather in all parts of the country at various times of the year, and by abnormal increases in the price of bitumen following the 1973 oil crisis. Provided operations are not affected by inclement weather, it is anticipated that profits will increase.

There was a dramatic downturn in the commodity markets served by E. I. Rogoff Limited and its subsidiaries, which operate as indent and sales agents, but the effects of this were largely offset by the full order book brought forward from the previous year. Consolidated taxed profit fell from R696 000 in 1974 to R551 000 in the year ended 30 June 1975, due mainly to the sale of 50 per cent of the company's interest in E. I. Rogoff Chemicals (Proprietary) Limited. Dividend income from this investment amounted to R110 000, compared to the R263 000 contribution by this former subsidiary to the consolidated taxed profit in the previous year. In addition, two new trading divisions, which were established during the year, had not reached profitability by the year end. The dividend was increased by 8 cents to 25 cents per share.

The large quantity of imported worsted cloth brought into the local market at low prices during 1974 caused a drop in demand and profitability at South African Fine Worsted (Proprietary) Limited for the first half of the financial year. However, this trend was successfully countered by the company's entry into the broader worsted market of leisurewear and trousers which, together with higher mill efficiencies, resulted in a satisfactory recovery to give an after-tax profit for the year of R697 000 (1974 - R684 000). The 1974 profit of R684 000 was free of tax as the company had an assessed loss. Forward orders for the coming year indicate that a modest improvement in profits may be expected.

The volume of crude oil processed at the refinery of Sotmar Limited in the past year was again restricted by the international oil companies to the agreed minimum quantity of 116 000 kilolitres, due to the reduced rate of demand for petroleum products in the country and a consequent surplus of capacity at their coastal refineries. Profit on refining declined, but improvements in other income and lower taxation resulted in a better taxed profit of R233 000 (1974 - R225 000). Throughput in the current year will continue at the minimum contractual level until 30 June 1976, when the agreement with the major oil companies will terminate. No alternative projects have yet been found to enable refining operations to be continued after that date and in the absence of any profitable use for the company's facilities in their present form, its assets will be sold to the best advantage of shareholders.

Cement and lime

The Anglo-Alpha Cement Limited group recorded an after-tax profit for the year ended 30 June 1975 of R5 347 000, compared with R5 677 000 in the previous year. Turnover rose by R35 000 000 to R130 000 000 due to the full consolidation of the group's ready-mixed concrete interests for the first time. The decline in business activity, coupled with a season of exceptionally heavy rainfall, reduced the level of demand from the construction industry and sales volumes fell slightly below those achieved last year. Besides the depressed sales position, the decline in profitability is attributable to higher interest charges on increased borrowings, severe production cost increases and the additional amount set aside for the replacement of fixed assets resulting from the alarming increase in the replacement cost of plant.

The country's future cement supply is being jeopardised by the artificial constraints of price control. This results in an inadequate return which inhibits the producers from expanding capacity in line with the anticipated growth in the market. Rapid cost escalations and low returns forced a curtailment of the expansion of Dudfield and, due to the strain which would otherwise be placed on the company's capital resources and liquidity, only that portion already committed will be proceeded with.

30 September 1975.

ANGLO-TRANVAAL CONSOLIDATED INVESTMENT COMPANY, LIMITED

REGISTERED OFFICE:
ANGLOVAAL HOUSE, 56 MAIN STREET, JOHANNESBURG

LONDON SECRETARIES:
ANGLO-TRANVAAL TRUSTEES LIMITED,
295 REGENT STREET, LONDON W1R 8ST

The Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held at 09h30 on 21 November, 1975
at the registered office of the company.

Courage plans £36m. distribution and brewery complex

BY KENNETH GOODING, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

COURAGE, the Imperial Group subsidiary, hopes to build a £36m. brewing and distribution complex on a site just south of Reading.

The brewery will be of moderate size by today's standards with a capacity of up to 1.5m. bulk barrels a year, but there will be room for expansion as only three-quarters of the 110-acre site will be covered by the planned initial development.

Part of its job will be to extend the brewing capacity for Harp Lager, but final arrangements have still to be completed with the Harp Lager Consortium (which also includes Scottish and Newcastle Breweries and Guinness).

The plant, next to the motorway, will replace the Reading and Alton centres, but Courage says that it will keep the Bristol and London brewing and packaging centres - for the foreseeable future.

Problems

When the company first announced a year or so ago the possibility of a new production centre for the south of England, it suggested that both London and Bristol would be closed for loading (but not packaging) operations.

The prospect of industrial relations problems which might spring from such a move probably influenced the decision to keep them going as they are.

It will take several months to get the planning consents for the Reading development and another four to five years to complete the work.

The new brewing complex would employ around 1,000 people, roughly the same number of workers at the Reading brewery and the Alton canning centre.

Courage's present town-centre brewery, with an output of around 500,000 barrels a year, is on a site of about 14 acres. This will probably be acquired by Reading Council as part of a town redevelopment scheme to be announced soon.

Courage says that it has no idea what the site might be worth because so much depends on planning permission.

The new brewery will take

HOME CONTRACTS IDC £2.5m. work for British Steel

IDC Stratford-upon-Avon, has been awarded a £2.5m. contract by Redpath Dorman Long (Contractors) Ltd. of Bristol, England. Under this IDC will design and build a production facility for the refurbishing and replacement service of copper moulds and top zones for continuous casting as well as a 25m. continuous casting machine.

The contract is for the design and construction of a new production facility for the refurbishing and replacement service of copper moulds and top zones for continuous casting as well as a 25m. continuous casting machine. The contract is for the design and construction of a new production facility for the refurbishing and replacement service of copper moulds and top zones for continuous casting as well as a 25m. continuous casting machine.

LAURENCE SCOTT AND ELECTROMOTORS, Norwich, has received an order worth more than £1.5m. to supply low voltage switchgear for the CEGB's 2,000 megawatt Littlebrook D power station, which is being built to serve the south east and meet increased demand in the London area. The first of Littlebrook's three 660 megawatt oil-fired units will come into service during early 1976.

OGDEN GROUP, Otley, Yorkshire, has been appointed contractor for two £2.5m. civil engineering projects totalling more than £1m. For Cleveland County Council, Ogden will construct the advanced earthworks on Stage 1B of the M19 motorway, as the county's primary road network, and for Middlesbrough District Council it will carry out the second stage of reclamation of the North East of Middlesbrough, where land is being improved for future industrial development.

J. T. PARSONS, part of the Rush and Tomkins Group, has been awarded a "contract" worth £1,278,000 by Easterns Construction for the redevelopment of an area adjacent to Market Square, Salisbury. Known as the "Crazy Keys" scheme, this consists of completing demolition, underpinning walls and buildings scheduled for preservation, and construction of a new shopping precinct with vehicle servicing and parking at first floor level and offices on first and second floors. Work has already commenced and is due for completion in 18 months.

HEAD WRIGHTSON PROCESS ENGINEERING, Cleveland, has won a further National Coal Board contract this time for a new 300 tons-per-hour skip plant installation at Thurnscoe Colliery in its South Yorkshire area. Worth about £320,000, the order covers the design, supply, erection and commissioning of underground skip charging pockets, skips of nine tons capacity, and surface discharge and conveying arrangements to link up with a new raw coal stockpiling and reclaiming system. The company has now been awarded more than £5m. of NCB work in the past six months.

LATEST WILLS

Mr. F. R. Althaus, a former senior partner in Pember and Boyle and a former deputy chairman of the Stock Exchange Council, left £231,910 gross, £171,930 net. Sir Alfred Tomkins, former general secretary of the Furniture, Timber and Allied Trades Union, left £34,291 gross, £29,238 net.

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BOND DRAWINGS

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BANK OF ISRAEL LIMITED 7% Guaranteed Loan 1982

S. G. WARBURG & CO. LTD., announce that Bonds for the amount of U.S. \$1,360,000 have been drawn in the presence of a Notary Public for the fourth redemption instalment due 28th November, 1975.

The numbers of the Bonds so drawn are as follows:-

3	14	25	36	47	58	69	80	92	103	114	125
136	147	158	169	180	192	203	214	225	236	247	258
269	280	292	303	314	325	336	347	358	369	380	392
403	414	425	436	447	458	469	480	492	503	514	525
536	547	558	569	580	592	603	614	625	636	647	658
669	680	692	703	714	725	736	747	758	769	780	792
803	814	825	836	847	858	869	880	892	903	914	925
936	947	958	969	980	992	1003	1014	1025	1036	1047	1058
1069	1080	1092	1103	1114	1125	1136	1147	1158	1169	1180	1192
1203	1214	1225	1236	1247	1258	1269	1280	1292	1303	1314	1325
1336	1347	1358	1369	1380	1392	1403	1414	1425	1436	1447	1458
1469	1480	1492	1503	1514	1525	1536	1547	1558	1569	1580	1592
1603	1614	1625	1636	1647	1658	1669	1680	1692	1703	1714	1725
1736	1747	1758	1769	1780	1792	1803	1814	1825	1836	1847	1858
1869	1880	1892	1903	1914	1925	1936	1947	1958	1969	1980	1992
2003	2014	2025	2036	2047	2058	2069	2080	2092	2103	2114	2125
2136	2147	2158	2169	2180	2192	2203	2214	2225	2236	2247	2258
2269	2280	2292	2303	2314	2325	2336	2347	2358	2369	2380	2392
2403	2414	2425	2436	2447	2458	2469	2480	2492	2503	2514	2525
2536	2547	2558	2569	2580	2592	2603	2614	2625	2636	2647	2658
2669	2680	2692	2703	2714	2725	2736	2747	2758	2769	2780	2792
2803	2814	2825	2836	2847	2858	2869	2880	2892	2903	2914	2925
2936	2947	2958	2969	2980	2992	3003	3014	3025	3036	3047	3058
3069	3080	3092	3103	3114	3125	3136	3147	3158	3169	3180	3192
3203	3214	3225	3236	3247	3258	3269	3280	3292	3303	3314	3325
3336	3347	3358	3369	3380	3392	3403	3414	3425	3436	3447	3458
3469	3480	3492	3503	3514	3525	3536	3547	3558	3569	3580	3592
3603	3614	3625	3636	3647	3658	3669	3680	3692	3703	3714	3725
3736	3747	3758	3769	3780	3792	3803	3814	3825	3836	3847	3858
3869	3880	3892	3903	3914	3925	3936	3947	3958	3969	3980	3992
4003	4014	4025	4036	4047	4058	4069	4080	4092	4103	4114	4125
4136	4147	4158	4169	4180	4192	4203	4214	4225	4236	4247	4258
4269	4280	4292	4303	4314	4325	4336	4347	4358	4369	4380	4392
4403	4414	4425	4436	4447	4458	4469	4480	4492	4503	4514	4525
4536	4547	4558	4569	4580	4592	4603	4614	4625	4636	4647	4658
4669	4680	4692	4703	4714	4725	4736	4747	4758	4769	4780	4792
4803	4814	4825	4836	4847	4858	4869	4880	4892	4903	4914	4925
4936	4947	4958	4969	4980	4992	5003	5014	5025	5036	5047	5058
5069	5080	5092	5103	5114	5125	5136	5147	5158	5169	5180	5192
5203	5214	5225	5236	5247	5258	5269	5280	5292	5303	5314	5325
5336	5347	5358	5369	5380	5392	5403	5414	5425	5436	5447	5458
5469	5480	5492	5503	5514	5525	5536	5547	5558	5569	5580	5592
5603	5614	5625	5636	5647	5658	5669	5680	5692	5703	5714	5725
5736	5747	5758	5769	5780	5792	5803	5814	5825	5836	5847	5858
5869	5880	5892	5903	5914	5925	5936	5947	5958	5969	5980	5992
6003	6014	6025	6036	6047	6058	6069	6080	6092	6103	6114	6125
6136	6147	6158	6169	6180	6192	6203	6214	6225	6236	6247	6258
6269	6280	6292	6303	6314	6325	6336	6347	6358	6369	6380	6392
6403	6414	6425	6436	6447	6458	6469	6480	6492	6503	6514	6525
6536	6547	6558	6569	6580	6592	6603	6614	6625	6636	6647	6658
6669	6680	6692	6703	6714	6725	6736	6747	6758	6769	6780	6792
6803	6814	6825	6836	6847	6858	6869	6880	6892	6903	6914	6925
6936	6947	6958	6969	6980	6992	7003	7014	7025	7036	7047	7058

To-day's annual meeting of the Felixstowe Dock Company gives shareholders their first chance to comment on the surprise £5.2m. bid from the British Transport Docks Board. Arthur Smith reports

Cross-currents in Britain's ports

SHAREHOLDERS in the Felixstowe Dock Company to-day, at the company's annual meeting, have their first chance to comment on the surprise £5.2m. bid from the State-owned British Transport Docks Board unveiled at the beginning of the month and recommended for acceptance by the Felixstowe directors. Among the questions certain to be uppermost in their minds is why the company, a staunch opponent of port nationalisation, has apparently welcomed the BTDB offer.

For Felixstowe had become something of a symbol of the virtues of private enterprise, with its record as one of the fastest growing ports in Europe. Though the company celebrated its centenary this year, its achievements over the last couple of decades stem largely from the efforts of one man, Mr. H. Gordon Parker, a Felixstowe corn merchant who bought control in 1931 because, he says, he was dissatisfied with the service at other ports.

Then, it was a derelict dockyard, served by little more than a muddy creek. To-day, it is one of the nation's most modern ports, handling more than 3.7m. tonnes of cargo a year. Mr. Parker, at 84, is still chairman—and still fervently opposed to Government interference and to port nationalisation. He nevertheless stands firm with his fellow directors in their unanimous recommendation that shareholders should accept the bid.

Advantages

Mr. Parker was the man who appreciated the natural advantages of Felixstowe—a good harbour ideally situated for growing trade with Europe—and foresaw the changes that were to take place in transportation: Felixstowe introduced drive-on services—now called roll on/roll off—and was one of the first undertakings in Europe to provide berths for container operators.

A major reason for the port's success has been its good labour relations. Mr. Parker was fortunate in being able largely to recruit men new to the industry—dockers who were not party to the bitterness and recrimination that has been the legacy of most of Britain's major ports. And he was prepared to back his judgement with new investment—£10m. improvement

scheme has recently been completed. So why are the directors recommending that Felixstowe be nationalised? Inevitably the problem of succession is a factor, given Mr. Parker's age, and it would be almost impossible to replace a man with such a strong personality.

Moreover, the future outlook is uncertain. Heavy investment to modernise facilities has meant the company has had to step up its borrowing significantly. The accounts for the year to June 30, 1975, drawn up before the sale of Felixstowe Tank Developments (which realised £880,000), show borrowings up 20 per cent, to £5.11m. against shareholder capital of £4.73m.

Job security

In normal circumstances, Felixstowe might have turned to the equity market for more cash, but this seems impossible with the present Labour Government pledged to nationalisation of the ports. Indeed, it was probably the uncertainties engendered by the threat of future State ownership, coupled with the Government's plans to extend the dock labour scheme, which finally swung the Felixstowe directors in favour of accepting the BTDB offer. There are fears at Felixstowe that productivity and good labour relations will be jeopardised by an extension of the dock labour scheme, under which dockers have increased job security and a greater say in the work they do.

Preparations for the takeover are complicated by the fact that the BTDB has to get a private Bill through Parliament to give it the necessary powers. While the legislation may not get the Royal Assent before next August, at which point the £5.2m. would be paid, shareholders will be called on to commit themselves to the deal at an extraordinary general meeting likely to be held about the middle of next month.

One question is whether a private consortium, understood to have assessed the potential of Felixstowe, will move in with a counter-bid. This, however, looks increasingly unlikely, given the Government's commitment to port nationalisation. Should the Government fall, BTDB's Bill would go with it, and at that point competing offers could be made. Though many people only

see the Felixstowe takeover as an important example of private enterprise falling into the hands of the State, its significance is far wider. It puts back into a state of flux all the Government's plans to take commercial ports into public ownership. Certainly there was no mention in the two recent consultative documents issued by Mr. Fred Mulley, the former Transport Minister, of any increased role for the British Transport Docks Board. Dr. John Gilbert, as the new man in control, must want time to reach his own conclusions about what form reorganisation should take, and the Government has already said that the Parliamentary timetable is too overloaded to include a Bill in the next session.

Whatever the reasons for delay, the eventual pattern of port reorganisation is now a matter for speculation. One fear within the industry is that the Government, under pressure from its Left wing, will return to the idea of "monolithic nationalisation"—that is, the abolition of all the major port authorities and the transfer of their undertakings to a new State authority, as proposed in the 1970 Ports Bill.

However, helped no doubt by the reform of the administration of many port authorities, Labour's thinking has become a lot more pragmatic. Indeed, ports regarded as already within the public sector under Mr. Mulley's proposals (which very much bear the mark of Mr. Jack Jones, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers Union, who is also deputy chairman of the National Ports Council, the body responsible for supervising the industry) handle more than 80 per cent of Britain's sea-borne trade.

But the whole structure is exceedingly complex, with accidents of history, local geography, and politics resulting in the creation of, in many cases, essentially ad hoc port authorities. Already within the widely defined public sector are the BTDB, which alone handles around 35 per cent of the U.K.'s sea trade; the trust ports, such as London and Milford Haven; and the local authority controlled docks, such as Bristol and Preston. Beyond that, the principal "private" ports ripe for public ownership are Merseyside, in which the Government already has an important stake. Manchester, where the

local authority appoints 11 of the 21 directors, and Felixstowe. Underlying Mr. Mulley's proposals were two main principles: the need for a strong central National Ports Authority, and the need to preserve local initiative and competitiveness at port level.

The first idea has a respectable history and was one of the principal recommendations of the Rochdale Report on the ports in 1962. Mr. Mulley argued that "the present statutory framework of controls is not adequate to secure the full implementation of an effective national ports strategy."

The second indicates how much more sophisticated has



Sir Humphrey Browne, chairman of the British Transport Docks Board: "There is no question whatsoever of bidding for any other port."

become Labour's approach to the problems of port management. Mr. Mulley stressed the need "to maintain the present pattern of public ownership by individual port authorities, in order to preserve local initiative and responsibility." This would ensure that ports continued to compete on service and on price whereas "the wholesale transfer of ownership to the National Ports Authority would mean over-centralisation and unnecessary dislocation of the industry."

There are those within the ports industry who read a wider significance into the Felixstowe takeover by pointing out the similarity between Mr. Mulley's principles and those operated by the BTDB. The suggestion is that Felixstowe could set the pattern for "creeping nationali-

sation," with the BTDB expanding its empire eventually to fill the role of the National Ports Authority, an idea, however, rejected by the BTDB itself.

Undoubtedly the BTDB—guided by Sir Humphrey Browne, who, as chairman of Bestobell, is also accustomed to the disciplines of the private sector—has been one of the success stories of the public sector, boosting its share of U.K. trade and returning a pre-tax profit last year of £12.1m. Sir Humphrey attributes the achievement to a policy which aims "to combine strong financial control from the centre, with maximum local operational freedom so that local management may exercise initiative and respond quickly and flexibly both to local conditions and to new trade opportunities."

Monopoly

Whether such a policy could be pursued effectively by a BTDB moving towards a monopoly control position is another matter, and the idea would certainly be anathema to Sir Humphrey.

"Acquisition of Felixstowe will take our share of U.K. trade from 25 per cent, to 30 per cent, and there is no intention whatsoever of bidding for any other port," he says.

Another possibility being discussed within the ports industry is that the Government might be happy to leave the BTDB at its present size apart from the addition of Felixstowe, and allow the State-owned sector to try to set an example to more laggardly authorities. The suggestion is that the Government might choose discreetly to drop its proposals to nationalise the ports. Priority is already being given to the trade unions' principal concern: legislation to extend the dock labour scheme. Moreover, the move by BTDB will have brought Felixstowe within the public sector; and it is the non-scheme port that, because of its rapid growth, has aroused most union hostility.

The key question is whether the National Ports Council, without having its powers bolstered through new legislation, would be able to realise the Government's policy objectives. Limited though its present direct powers of intervention may be, the Council's achievements have not been lacking. With a constitution broadly

similar to that of a nationalised industry, the Council is responsible for formulating and overseeing national planning for the development of the ports. It makes recommendations to the Environment Secretary about harbour projects costing more than £1m. and has powers to promote reorganisation schemes and estuarial groupings.

In its 11 years of life the ports industry has seen a transformation. Port authorities alone have invested some £400m. in containerisation, and other new facilities: a recent study by the Council showed that Britain had more than enough capacity to handle estimated demand up to 1980.

Mr. John Peyton, in his period as Transport Minister, demonstrated how existing powers can be used, with the correct blend of persuasion and compulsion, to effect wide-reaching reform. Through the Council he modernised administration of the trust ports, and seven of Britain's 11 principal ports fall under that heading, by requiring them to cut the size of their Boards and appoint members who could bring a general expertise to the industry.

Uncertainty

By employing similar tactics and using the Council to gain the co-operation of the industry, Dr. Gilbert might be able to pursue Government policy successfully. But whatever conclusions are drawn about the significance of the Felixstowe takeover, the overriding concern must be the uncertainty that the move has created. So unexpected was the BTDB initiative that all options for future reorganisation now seem to be open.

However, while it may be expedient for Ministers to make ad hoc decisions, this does nothing to help the industries for which they are responsible. For a decade now the ports have had the threat of nationalisation hanging over them, but there is still no final scheme.

This uncertainty can do nothing but harm. The main task now for the ports industry is not to lay down massive new investment but to try to raise productivity and to attempt to bring new working relationships and a new professionalism to a sector so long troubled by disension. New management will not be attracted to an industry where the future is so difficult to forecast.

APPOINTMENTS

Head Wrightson Machine managing director

Mr. Richard V. Covill has been appointed managing director of Engineering since the inauguration in 1968. THE HEAD WRIGHTSON MACHINE COMPANY, the Middlesbrough-based Head Wrightson subsidiary, has appointed Mr. David Jewitt as assistant managing director. Mr. Jewitt has been with the company since 1968, where he was commercial director.

Mr. Michael H. Caine will become chief executive of BOOKER McCONNELL when, at the end of this month, Sir George Skisop retires as a full-time executive of the company on reaching the age of 62. Sir George will continue as chairman.

Mr. Edwin J. Perry has been promoted to vice-president of MORGAN GUARANTY TRUST COMPANY OF NEW YORK. Mr. Perry, who joined the bank in 1933, heads the Sterling Treasury Division of its London office. Promoted to assistant vice-president are Miss Margaret L. Campbell, Mr. John B. V. Anderson, Mr. Terence C. Eccles, Mr. Terry R. Mills, Mr. Peter J. Muller and Mr. Alan T. Townson.

Mr. J. A. Swire, chairman of JOHN SWIRE AND SONS has been appointed a director of the ROYAL LIVERPOOL AND LONDON AND GLOBE AND LONDON AND LANCASHIRE insurance companies.

Mr. Adrian Ould has been appointed finance director of SPILLERS FOODS, the pet food and domestic food subsidiary of Spillers. He joins the Board from the De La Rue Group.

Mr. R. T. S. Macpherson has been appointed a director of SCOTTISH TIMBER PRODUCTS.

Mr. Michael Wood has been appointed general manager of REMPS, the executive search company specialising in the oil, minerals and related industries, formed by Resources Engineering and Management International.

Mr. G. N. Hobbs has been appointed non-executive deputy chairman of the CHARTERHOUSE GROUP. Nigel Hobbs, deputy chairman of Slough Estates, has been a non-executive director of the Charterhouse Group since April, 1974.

Mr. Vernon Coffee is retiring from executive duties on the Board of THORN ELECTRICAL INDUSTRIES. He will continue as a non-executive director and also carry out part-time consultative duties as chairman of Thorn Domestic Appliances and Thorn Heating. Mr. Keith Miller becomes chairman of the subsidiaries in the Thorn Domestic Appliances' Electrical Division. Mr. Derek Parke, chairman of the subsidiaries in the gas division, and Mr. John Sweet continue as managing director of Thorn Heating.

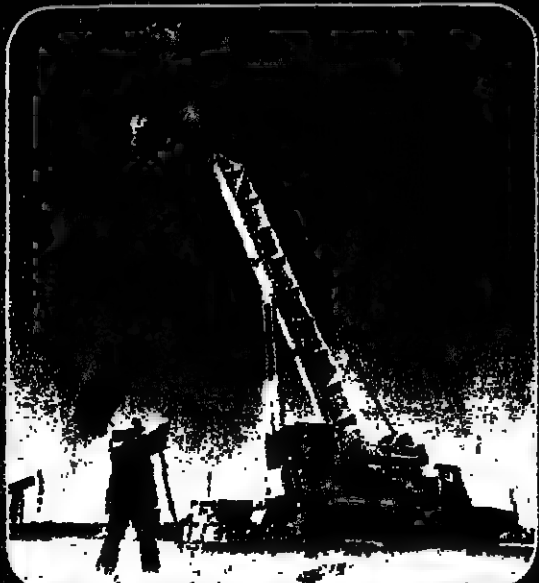
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Professor J. C. Levy has been appointed Pro-Vice-Chancellor of The City University for a three-year period until October, 1978. Professor Levy has been Head of

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ECONOM

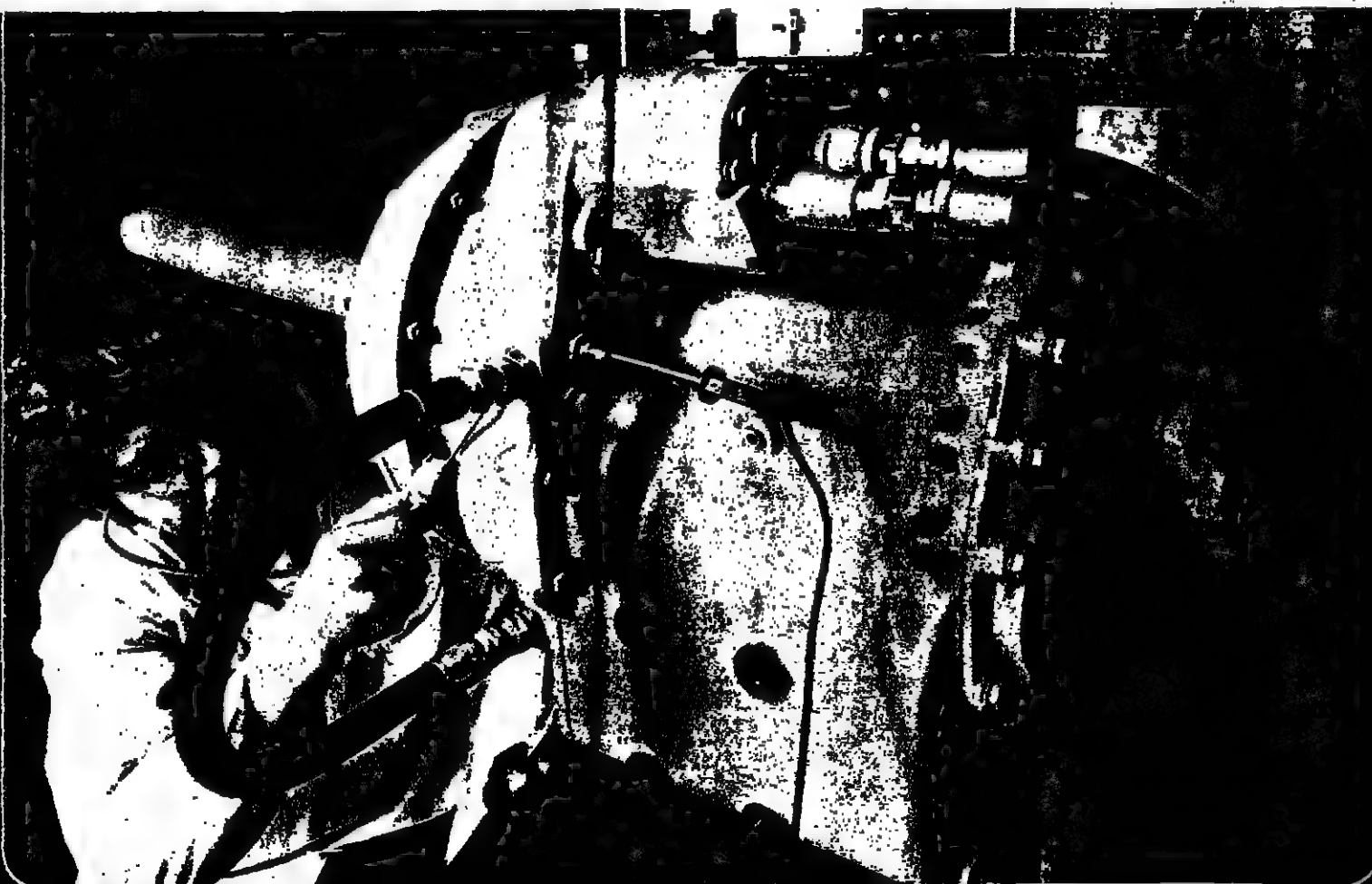
Sound testing a new Clark transmission. The full reversing 18000 Series offers powershift capability for vehicles in the 50-100 hp class. Manufacturers of construction, agricultural and industrial vehicles worldwide use Clark transmissions and axles.



Clark truck crane lays oil pipeline.



Clark scrapers build a road through swampy land.



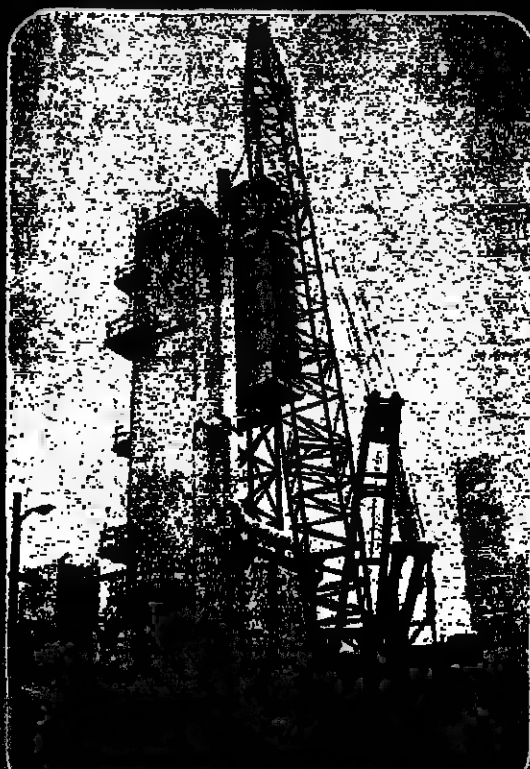
Clark Tri-Loader attachment rotates 180° in narrow aisles.



Food is easy to reach in Clark Tyler multi-shelf cases.



Melroe Bobcat skid-steer loader makes small jobs easy.



Clark long-boom crane lifts a 68-ton argon box.

Clark gets it done.

You can count on it. Because the equipment is good to begin with. And because your Clark dealer knows how to keep it that way. When you're under pressure to get a job done, that's good to know. Clark Equipment Company

CLARK

هكذا من الأصل

BY E. P. SNOW

HARRIS® BOOKS

[illegible]

HOTELS—Continued

38	1.9	1.8	85	22	10	Ray (Norman) W	190	1	1.54	2.40	10.5	5
39	1.4	1.3	83	57	62	Ray's Wharf	98	-2	1.35	3.8	8.0	5
40	1.4	1.3	83	57	62	Ray's Wharf	98	-2	1.35	3.8	8.0	5
41	1.4	1.3	83	57	62	Ray's Wharf	98	-2	1.35	3.8	8.0	5
42	1.4	1.3	83	57	62	Ray's Wharf	98	-2	1.35	3.8	8.0	5
43	1.4	1.3	83	57	62	Ray's Wharf	98	-2	1.35	3.8	8.0	5
44	1.4	1.3	83	57	62	Ray's Wharf	98	-2	1.35	3.8	8.0	5
45	1.4	1.3	83	57	62	Ray's Wharf	98	-2	1.35	3.8	8.0	5
46	1.4	1.3	83	57	62	Ray's Wharf	98	-2	1.35	3.8	8.0	5
47	1.4	1.3	83	57	62	Ray's Wharf	98	-2	1.35	3.8	8.0	5
48	1.4	1.3	83	57	62	Ray's Wharf	98	-2	1.35	3.8	8.0	5
49	1.4	1.3	83	57	62	Ray's Wharf	98	-2	1.35	3.8	8.0	5
50	1.4	1.3	83	57	62	Ray's Wharf	98	-2	1.35	3.8	8.0	5
51	1.4	1.3	83	57	62	Ray's Wharf	98	-2	1.35	3.8	8.0	5
52	1.4	1.3	83	57	62	Ray's Wharf	98	-2	1.35	3.8	8.0	5
53	1.4	1.3	83	57	62	Ray's Wharf	98	-2	1.35	3.8	8.0	5
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66	1.4	1.3	83	57	62	Ray's Wharf	98	-2	1.35	3.8	8.0	5
67	1.4	1.3	83	57	62	Ray's Wharf	98	-2	1.35	3.8	8.0	5
68	1.4	1.3	83	57	62	Ray's Wharf	98	-2	1.35	3.8	8.0	5
69	1.4	1.3	83	57	62	Ray's Wharf	98	-2	1.35	3.8	8.0	5
70	1.4	1.3	83	57	62	Ray's Wharf	98	-2	1.35	3.8	8.0	5
71	1.4	1.3	83	57	62	Ray's Wharf	98	-2	1.35	3.8	8.0	5
72	1.4	1.3	83	57	62	Ray's Wharf	98	-2	1.35	3.8	8.0	5

MENTES

NOTES

Unless otherwise indicated, prices and net dividends are in pence and percentages indicated are 25p. Estimated performance ratios and covers are based on latest annual reports and accounts and are based on the following assumptions: (a) Dividend figures are adjusted to A.C.T. of 35 per cent. W.T.B.s are calculated on the basis of the current rate of A.C.T. of 35 per cent. (b) Dividend figures are calculated on "all" distributions. (c) Dividend covers are based on "maximum" distributions. Yield, assuming maintenance of current rate of A.C.T. are based on mid-price prices, are gross and allow for value of distribution discounts and rights. Dividend cover is calculated on the basis of the following: are quoted inclusive of the investment dollar premium.

- a) Speculating dominated securities which include investment dollar premium.
- b) "Over Stock".
- c) Highs and Lows marked thus have been adjusted to allow for rights issues for cash.
- d) Information since last revised, or resumed.
- e) Interim since reduced, passed or deferred.
- f) Dividend and dividend cover.
- g) Figures or report awaited.
- h) Banks and Insurance receive allocations may provide additional dividend cover.
- i) Prices at time of suspension.
- j) Indicated dividend offer pending scrip and/or rights issue.
- k) Dividend cover, based on previous dividend or forecast.
- l) Free of Stamp Duty.
- m) Not comparable.
- n) Some firms, reduced final and/or reduced earnings based on 1973 profits.
- o) Cover allows for extension of shorts not now ranking for dividend, including only for restricted dividend.
- p) Cover does not allow for shares which may also rank for dividend at a future date. No 1973 price usually provided.
- q) Dividend and dividend cover.
- r) Regional price.
- s) Regional price.
- t) Tax free.
- u) Figure based on prospectus or other official estimate.
- v) Cent. a Dividend rate; said or payable on part of share.
- w) Dividend cover.
- x) Yield, if flat yield, q Assumed dividend, r Payment from share sources, s Kenya, in January higher than previous total, q Earnings based on preliminary figures, r Australian currency, a Dividend and yield exclude dividend cover, s Indicated dividends cover relates to previous dividend, p.R. ratio based on latest annual earnings.
- y. Forecast dividend cover based on previous year's earnings.
- z. Dividend cover, based on previous year's earnings.
- aa. Dividend and yield based on merger terms.
- ab. Dividend and yield includes a special payment. Cover does not include special payment.
- ac. No dividend and yield.
- ad. Preference dividend passed or deferred, c Canadian, d Dividend, e Assumed dividend, f Assumed dividend, g Assumed dividend, h Assumed dividend, i Assumed dividend, j Assumed dividend, k Assumed dividend, l Assumed dividend, m Assumed dividend, n Assumed dividend, o Assumed dividend, p Assumed dividend, q Assumed dividend, r Assumed dividend, s Assumed dividend, t Assumed dividend, u Assumed dividend, v Assumed dividend, w Assumed dividend, x Assumed dividend, y Assumed dividend, z Assumed dividend, aa Assumed dividend, ab Assumed dividend, ac Assumed dividend, ad Assumed dividend, ae Assumed dividend, af Assumed dividend, ag Assumed dividend, ah Assumed dividend, ai Assumed dividend, aj Assumed dividend, ak Assumed dividend, al Assumed dividend, am Assumed dividend, an Assumed dividend, ao Assumed dividend, ap Assumed dividend, aq Assumed dividend, ar Assumed dividend, as Assumed dividend, at Assumed dividend, au Assumed dividend, av Assumed dividend, aw Assumed dividend, ax Assumed 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